

The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn's Real Newspaper

BrooklynPaper.com • (718) 834-9350 • Brooklyn, NY • ©2007

WEB EDITION
INCLUDING ALL PRINT EDITIONS

AWP/16 pages • Vol. 30, No. 7 • Saturday, Feb. 17, 2007 • FREE

WRATH OF CONGRESS

Clarke: I'll sic Feds on Ratner over Barclays

By Dana Rubinstein

The Brooklyn Paper

Rep. Yvette Clarke will call for congressional hearings on the Atlantic Yards development unless developer Bruce Ratner and Barclays amend their \$400-million naming-rights agreement to her satisfaction, she told The Brooklyn Paper this week.

"One way of bringing transparency to a mega-project of this magnitude, is to bring hearings that put all of the elements on the table," threatened Clarke (D-Park Slope).

Black leaders, including Clarke, took part in a historic sit-down with Ratner last week after she expressed outrage that the impending Nets arena would be named for Barclays, a bank that profited from the slave trade, froze the accounts of Holocaust victims, and operated for decades in apartheid South Africa.

Assemblyman Hakeem Jeffries (D-Fort Greene) and Rev. Clinton Miller, of Fort Greene's Brown Memorial Baptist Church, were also at the meeting.

Clarke is a strong supporter of the Atlantic Yards project, while Jeffries has some qualms. Miller is an opponent of the project. But all three black leaders, and others, are united in their opposition to the Barclays naming deal.

Jeffries, who had earlier called for a "termination" of the naming-rights deal, was more circumspect following the sit-down, saying only that it was "a productive meeting on the issue of the naming-rights agreement. The next step will be to have a conversation with Barclays to determine whether we can reach some kind of resolution."

Clarke was similarly hesitant to discuss details in the midst of the high-powered negotiations. "I don't know whether [Ratner] was sympathetic or not," said Clarke. "They listened and they heard. There were a lot of different perspectives, and each was respected."

Clarke stopped short of calling for the termination of the agreement.

"I'm not quite there, but I did want [them] to see BARCLAYS on page 12



Victor Mooney, who wants to row a boat across the Atlantic, put a Barclays logo on an illustration of the carbon-fiber craft he hopes the bank will pay for.

'Looney Mooney' baits bank to build his boat

By Christie Rizk

The Brooklyn Paper

A man who set out to row himself across the Atlantic Ocean last year, but sank three hours into the journey, vows to complete his mission — and he hopes he'll have Barclays behind him.

Victor Mooney, whom some

bloggers have dubbed "Looney Mooney" after he attempted to row from the old slave-trading port, Goree Island, Senegal, to the United States last May, announced his second try last Wednesday, unveiling a new (but still-unbuilt) boat.

"It [will be] virtually unbreakable and professionally built," he said, a reference to his less-than-seaworthy,

self-made first boat, which sank three hours into his trip, forcing the Senegalese navy to rescue him.

This time, Mooney will need \$75,000 to make this dream a reality — \$50,000 for the boat and another \$25,000 for supplies and to support his family for the three months he estimates the journey will take.

See BOAT on page 12

Images the BPL doesn't want you to see



BANNED OR JUST BAD? This photo featuring anti-Atlantic Yards activist Chris Owens (playing the recorder) has been cut from a Brooklyn Public Library exhibit.

By Ariella Cohen

The Brooklyn Paper

The Brooklyn Public Library censored a politically charged art exhibit inspired by Atlantic Yards, free-speech advocates charged this week.

The show, entitled "Footprints: Portrait of a Brooklyn Neighborhood," portrays the condemned 22-acre area where Atlantic Yards is slated to be built, capturing those who live and work there on the eve of the land's condemnation.

The show mostly consists of documentary-style depictions, but several hot-button pieces, ranging from a neutral portrait of a high-profile Yards opponent to a depiction of Ratner's arena as a toilet bowl, were eliminated.

The portrait of Yards opponent Daniel Goldstein showed the activist staring calmly at the viewer — and its creator thinks it was too hot to handle, but merely because of the political baggage Goldstein carries in the fight

against Yards developer Ratner.

"It is clear that they are trying to keep controversial pieces out," said artist Sarah Sagarin. "It was upsetting for me because I painted a portrait of a person, not a symbol. I did that to show the humanity below the politics and they have made it political."

Donald O'Finn's painting of Atlantic Yards as a toilet bowl was certainly political (see page 12). O'Finn, a bartender at Fred-dy's, the Prospect Heights nightclub that has become Ground Zero in the anti-Yards fight, will hang his painting, along with others that were cut, next week at the bar.

A library spokeswoman declined to speak about specific pieces of work that were removed. "We worked closely with the curators of the 'Footprints' exhibit to select the pieces that best represent the theme of this exhibition," said spokeswoman Ruth Wagner, mentioning the limit on

See LIBRARY on page 12

ICH BIN EIN GALAPAGOS

Trendy W'burg nightspot goes international

By John O'Connor

for The Brooklyn Paper

Galapagos Art Space, a Williamsburg club that regularly showcases a skit-like quintet, a burlesque and avant-garde puppets, is striking out into new territory.

Ty Berlin, Beijing and Bombay.

In a bold new move that should further enhance its standing in the New York art scene, Galapagos plans to open outlets in these three far-flung cities and establish a rotating crop of resident-artists among all four venues.

The project will begin next summer with the opening of a 300-seat space in the eastern part of the reunified-and-hot Berlin, followed by similar spots in Beijing two years later and Bombay in 2012.

"It's a part of our mission to bring an international element to the scene," Robert Elmes, director of Galapagos, told GO Brooklyn. "We want to take emerging artists from New York, send them on tour and bring other artists here."

Elmes hopes this cross-pollination will enrich the arts in Brooklyn. "It's the best thing that we can do for the borough," he said.

Like so many things, the main reason for the expansion is rising rent, Elmes said. High overhead has hurt low-budget emerging acts, which Elmes calls "the canaries in New York City's real estate gold mine."

He fears the city may already be losing young artists to places with far cheaper rents, such as Austin, Portland and Chicago.

"As rents go up, it gets increasingly difficult to put music and art together in this city," Elmes



Robert Elmes, director of Galapagos Art Space, in the dressing room while performers get ready.

said. "So we think it's absolutely vital and critical to create an environment that will attract artists from around the country and around the world."

Not that opening international locations is a cheap endeavor. "We're hoping to fund it through the revenue we've produced or find local partners," Elmes said.

"In order to survive in this economic climate, we need to get bigger, and by bigger I don't mean that we intend to be like R&M [Brooklyn Academy of Music] one day. We want to grow to be a bigger and better Galapagos."

Adam Forest Hunter, executive director of the non-profit arts group Fractured Atlas, said the threat of a diminished arts presence in New York is very real.

"It's already happening and we've got a rapidly closing window of opportunity to do something to make sure that the arts can remain a presence here," he said.

See BERLIN on page 10

Police: Terror may be brewing at Tea Lounge

By Dana Rubinstein

The Brooklyn Paper

Has Al Qaeda infiltrated the Tea Lounge?

That's what Park Slope's caffeinated set was wondering after a law enforcement agent strolled into the neighborhood's beloved hangout last month and told a barista to be on the lookout for villains plotting their next attack by way of the cafe's free wireless Internet access.

A policeman came in and told her that people who sit around using Wi-Fi could be learning about terrorism," said Greg Wolf, the owner of the cafe, which is on Union Street between Sixth and Seventh avenues.

The barista in question no longer works at the Tea Lounge and couldn't be reached for comment, but a patron who witnessed the interaction — and ultimately chimed in — gave us the blow-by-blow:

"The cop gave her a flier about what to look for in a terrorist," recalled the patron. "She said, 'I'm Israeli. I know what to look for.'"

"Then the cop told her to contact him if she sees anyone looking at suspicious Web sites."

The observer felt compelled to



According to Greg Wolf, owner of the Tea Lounge in Park Slope, a cop said any of his laptop-toting customers could be a terrorist.

intervene.

"I said, 'Are you asking her to monitor what people are looking at?' And he responded, 'If someone came in with a gun, would you want her to call the police?' I said, 'That's a little ridiculous.'"

It's unclear what agency the gumshoe works for. The commanding officer of Park Slope's 78th Precinct, Capt. John Scolaro,

called it an "incredible story," and insisted that the officer did not work for him.

Nonetheless, coffee hounds at Wolf's other Tea Lounge, on Seventh Avenue and 10th Street, were similarly taken aback by the absurdity of the story, first reported on the Web site, Only the Bleg Knows Brooklyn.

See TERROR on page 12

Fowl play: Fairway ducks foie gras flap

By Ariella Cohen

The Brooklyn Paper

Animal-rights activists have mounted a campaign against Fairway to pressure Red Hook's epicurean market to stop selling one of its trademark delicacies: foie gras.

"A lot of our people live in Brooklyn," said Gene Baur, the president of Food Sanctuary, an animal-rights group. "They shop at Fairway because they want food that is humane and sustainable. Foie gras is anything but."

The controversy began last month at Fairway's Upper West Side store when a member of the group noticed a sign cheering the duck liver spread, which is considered inhumane by the activists because the birds are force-fed.

"We don't care how many emails we get about how inhumane it is," the sign proclaimed. "We know better."

Foie gras, which is French for fatty liver, is not only "ag inhumane," but one of "life's greatest gustatory pleasures," the sign concluded.

But its appeal to gustatory guilelessness backfired, inspiring a petition by the activists.

Within a few days of the petition drive, the store's management admitted defeat, and removed the signs from all their locations, describing the text as an "anomaly."

Fairway spokesman Bruce Bobben said the store was sorry for appearing insensitive during the foie gras faux pas — but asserted the grocer's right to sell the fat-filled treat.

"There is a consumer demand," he said, "and our customers expect that Fairway will have what they want."

"That is why Fairway is a legend, for its unparalleled variety."

Even the activists agree with Bobben's last point, arguing that such diversity makes



This sign at the Red Hook Fairway apparently riled anti-foie gras activists, who have now targeted the store. The sign has been removed, but the foie gras remains.

the store suitable for a foie gras boycott.

"I'm a vegan and I shop at Fairway because there are very few stores that sell as many vegan and vegetarian products," said Mia MacDonald, a Carroll Gardens resident and Farm Sanctuary member.

"It's hard for me that they also sell a product that requires force-feeding ducks in a very cruel way," MacDonald added.

"Some products," MacDonald added, "should be beyond consumer choice because of the ethics involved." She plans to send a letter and a petition to the Red Hook Fairway within the next week.

Farm Sanctuary is a large and well-funded group with hundreds of members in Brooklyn. The Fairway campaign is the first battle in its much larger war to stop the production and sale of the delectable duck pate.

"First, we plan to encourage businesses to stop selling it," said Baur, "and eventually, pass legislation that bans it completely."

This year, the group kick-started its "NYC No Foie Gras" campaign, opening an office in Manhattan and hiring a full-time development coordinator.

The organization has seen success with such campaigns before. Lobbying for bans that became law in 2004 in California, and last year, in Chicago.

Now, Windy City chefs who serve the silted spread face a \$500 fine. And in 2012, the liver product will be completely outlawed in the Golden State thanks to once-hesitant Gov. Schwarzenegger.

After the Chicago City Council banned the cracker-topper last April, a few members of New York's City Council stepped forward with similar proposals.

Those resolutions never moved forward. But Mayor Bloomberg's creation of a food policy task for the city, and his crackdown on trans-fat and whole milk in school cafeterias, have put the issue back on the table.

See LIVERWORST on page 12

"Combining Spa & Wellness with Medicine"



PHYSICIAN-DIRECTED

MASSAGE THERAPY • FACIAL/SKINCARE SERVICES • LASER HAIR REDUCTION
LASER FOTO-FACIAL REJUVENATION • ANTI-AGING TREATMENTS
LIFE-STYLE MODIFICATION PROGRAMS • SPORTS MEDICINE
PHYSICAL THERAPY • PAIN MANAGEMENT • NUTRITION COUNSELING
ACUPUNCTURE • AESTHETIC/PREVENTIVE DENTISTRY

71 Carroll Street Brooklyn, NY 11231 • 718.797.9797 • www.lomawellness.com

Trinity Irish Dance Company

Sunday, February 25, 2007 at 2:00 pm



"A vibrant blaze of movement!" Chicago Tribune
"Impeccable, rapid-fire rhythm!" Village Voice

BROOKLYN CENTER
OF ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
2006-2007 SEASON

What's New! Tickets, one block from the junction of Flatbush & Flatbush Avenue
On-site parking available. (2 train to Flatbush Avenue)

Tickets and info: www.BrooklynCenterOnline.org (718) 951-4958

Support provided by: 

Got Lighting?

We're New York's largest lighting store!



The Victoria Collection



Paris Modern



Stirling Court



Normandie Court

High Rating in Zagat 2005 NYC shopping guide

floor lamps • table lamps • lampshades
repairs • ceiling fans • low voltage lighting
MIRRORS • TABLES • DECORATIVE ACCESSORIES

LAMP WAREHOUSE

Everything in lighting... Discounted!

1073 39th Street (718) 436-2207
Mon. & Tues. 9-5:30 Wed. CLOSED Thurs. 9-8 Fri. 9-5 Sat. & Sun. 10-4
FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED FOR OVER 30 YEARS

Galleries in DUMBO

Space Available Caroline Thebaud 718.222.2505 • Louise Ehrmann 718.222.2506
Two Trees www.dumbo-newyork.com

111 Front Street

5+5 Gallery | Brooklyn Arts Council | Henry Gregg Gallery |
s.e.d.gallery | Safe-T-Gallery | Wessel + O'Connor Fine Art |
Underbridge Pictures | Nelson Hancock Gallery | Gloria Kennedy
Gallery | GALLERY twenty-four | Sankaranka Gallery | Art Core NYC
Gallery | Flavors Gallery | and visit

30 Washington Street Dumbo Arts Center
92 Plymouth Street Smack Mellon Gallery
37 Main Street The powerhouse Gallery

DUMBO_come see what they see

WHERE TO

EDITORS' PICKS

SATURDAY February 17	TUESDAY February 20	WEDNESDAY February 21	THURSDAY February 22	FRIDAY February 23
Not shrinking The Gallery Players present "Violent," a civil rights-era play about a young woman who seeks spiritual guidance from a TV evangelist (actors Shad Oken and Rhyn McLemore are pictured). Somewhere, Jessica Hahn is smiling. 8 pm at The Gallery Players (199 14th St., between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope). \$18 for adults, \$14 for children 12 and younger. For information call (212) 352-3101.	Scribe's scrapbook Instead of biding your time waiting for Jonathan Lethem's next novel (to be released on Mar. 13, but who's counting?), check out "Patchwork Planet," a pictorial love letter to Brooklyn that features Lethem's remiscences along with Kate Milford's gorgeous photos (below). It's only available at BookCourt. BookCourt (163 Court St. between Third and Dean streets in Cobble Hill). \$25. For information call (718) 875-3677.	Look of love Drop into 3rd Ward to see "The Dating Show," a 19-artist exhibit, featuring Otto Berchem (work pictured), focused on new rules for dating in the modern world. Pick up some tips on what the arty kids think of romance and take a chance at securing next year's Valentine early. 3rd Ward (195 Morgan Ave. between Meadow and Stag streets in East Williamsburg). FREE. For information call (718) 715-4961.	Solo set Amy Linton, best known for her work with San Francisco band the Aisles Set, hits Union Hall solo tonight to open for Brooklyn's own Ladybug Transistor. Get there early to make sure you catch the punchy pop songs that have earned her an army of fans. Union Hall (702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope). For information call (718) 638-4400.	Winter whiskey There's no better way to end a chilly week than with a hot drink, especially if it's spiked. The hot toddies at the Water Street Restaurant are priced to move at \$5 during weekday happy hours. See, doesn't that make you happy? 4 to 7 pm at the Water Street Restaurant (66 Water St. at Main Street in DUMBO). \$5. For information call (718) 625-9352.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

Compiled by Susan Rosenthal Joy

SAT, FEB 17

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

ICE SKATING: Wolfman Rink is open, \$5, \$3 seniors and children, \$5.50 skate rental. 10 am to 1 pm; 2 pm to 6 pm; 7 pm to 10 pm. Prospect Park, access through the Lincoln Road Ocean Avenue entrance or the Lincoln Road Ocean Avenue entrance. (718) 287-5252.

BACKYARD BIRD COUNT: Prospect Park's Audubon Center annual event. Help researchers track North American bird populations. Noon to 1:30 pm. Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue. (718) 287-5400. Free.

TALES FROM THE CRYPT: Urban Park Rangers give a talk about the revolutionary new prisons entombed in Fort Greene Park. Meet at Visitor Center, near the Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park entrance. 3:11. Free.

WALKING TOUR: Mauricio Florence hosts a tour of Fort Greene, Clinton Hill and Brooklyn Heights. \$25. 5:25 to 6 pm. Marriott Hotel, 333 Adams St. (718) 789-0430.

WINTER RACE: Prospect Park Track Club hosts a Cherry Tree 10 Mile. Call for information. (718) 595-2049.

PERFORMANCE

BARGE MUSIC: Classical music concert of works by Fauré, Debussy, Grieg and Arnold. 7:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 624-2083.

MOTOWN REUNION: The Supremes' Mary Wilson and "The Temptations Review" featuring Dennis Edwards are at Brooklyn Center for Performing Arts' Red Hot Valentine's Concert. \$20-\$35. 8 pm. Walt Whitman Theater, one block from the junction of Flatbush and Nostredame avenues. For information call (718) 951-4500.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Violent," a musical set during the civil rights movement. \$15, \$14 children and seniors. 6 pm. 199 14th St. (718) 352-3101.

BROOKLYN NEX: Brooklyn Academy of Music presents a new, borough-wide celebration of Brooklyn's own musical talent. Mo Def performs, \$25 to \$40. 8 pm. Howard Gilman Opera House, 30 Lafayette Ave. Also, BAM Talk: Brooklyn NEX. \$10. 3 pm. Hellman Art Studio, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 624-4100.

DAVE: Fully staged, dance-infused performance of "The Virgin Monologues." \$20. 7 pm. Galleyspace Art Space, 70 N. Sixth St. (718) 868-4444.

THEATER: Narrows Community Theater presents "Shhh! Don't Wake the Corpse." \$20, \$15 seniors, students and children. 8 pm. St. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 482-3173.

GALAPOGOS ART SPACE: presents a musical melodrama about a building which falls in love with a real estate developer. "Little Building." \$15. 7:30 pm. 70 N. Sixth St. (718) 384-4586.

THEATER: "True West." \$20. 8 pm.

Brooklyn Music School Playhouse, 126 St. Felix St. (718) 638-7104.

CHILDREN

BUTZ FOR KIDS: Watson Adventures Scavenger Hunts takes a tour of The Brooklyn Museum. \$23, \$15 kids. 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. 200 Eastern Pkwy. (877) 7-GOJUNT.

ARTY KIDS: Kids are invited to explore symbols of power and create their own powerful art. For ages 4 to 7 years old. \$8, free for kids 12 and younger. 11 am and 2 pm. Brooklyn Museum, 200 Eastern Pkwy. (718) 638-5000.

MEET THE DRAGON: The Heights Players Storybook Theater for Children presents "Maxine and Sir Sam Meet the dragon. Who Blamed All the Time." 11:30 am. 26 Willow Pl. Call for ticket info. (718) 237-2752.

LEFFERTS HOUSE: Kids are invited to learn about what folks did in the past during winter. Play historic indoor games, help build and repair toys and tools and view a winter exhibit. Noon to 4 pm. Prospect Park's Willow entrance, at intersection of Flatbush Avenue and Empire Boulevard. (718) 287-3400. Free.

OTHER

VITICULTURE: Brooklyn Botanic Garden hosts a talk, "Growing Grapes in Brooklyn." Workshop covers the art of growing and maintaining a backyard or small vineyard, followed by a tasting of homemade wine. Participants must be at least 21 years of age. 10 am to 1 pm and 2 pm to 5 pm. Call for fee info and pre-registration. 1000 Washington Ave. (718) 623-7220.

VOCAL CLASS: Recording artist Yolanda Wynn holds a master class. \$50. 3 pm to 6 pm. 138 S. Oxford Pl. Call to pre-register. (718) 855-9343.

SUN, FEB 18

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

ICE SKATING: The Wolfman Rink is open, \$5, \$3 seniors and children, \$5.50 skate rental. 10 am to 1 pm; 2 pm to 6 pm. Prospect Park, access through the Lincoln Road Ocean Avenue entrance or the Lincoln Road Ocean Avenue entrance. (718) 287-5252.

FORT GREENE PARK: Urban Park Rangers explain Brooklyn's impact on the American Revolution. 1 pm. Meet at the Visitor Center, near the Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park entrance. For info call 311. Free.

PERFORMANCE

DANCE: English folk dancing troupe Half Moon Sound Ale of NYC and 11 other English folk dance groups from around the country performs traditional long sword dances from North England and Scotland. \$8, \$4 seniors and students, free for members. 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Museum, 200 Eastern Pkwy. (718) 638-5000.

MUSIC: Brooklyn Symphony Orchestra performs works by Beethoven and Petrows. \$15. 3 pm. Church of St. Ann and the Holy Trinity, 157 Montague St. (718) 875-4960.

ORGAN RECITAL: All Saints Episcopal Church hosts an organ recital as the bell tolls even in a 140th anniversary celebration. \$10. 7 pm. Seventh Avenue and Seventh Street. \$10. (800) 768-1156.

CONCERT SERIES: The 140th anniversary concert series at All Saints Church features an organ concert with Arthur La Miranda and more. \$10. 7 pm. Seventh Avenue and Seventh Street. For information call (800) 768-1156.

GALAPOGOS ART SPACE: "Little Building." Call for info. (718) 384-4586. See Sat., Feb. 17.

THEATER: "Shhh! Don't Wake the Corpse." 3 pm. See Sat., Feb. 17.

GALLERY PLAYERS: "Violent." 3 pm. See Sat., Feb. 17.

THEATER: "True West." 3 pm. See Sat., Feb. 17.

BARGE MUSIC: Classical music concert. 4 pm. See Sat., Feb. 17.

CIVIC CALENDAR

TUESDAY, FEB. 20

84th Precinct Community Council. Monthly meeting. 250 Cadman Place West between Clark and Clinton streets. 7 pm. Call (718) 875-6850 for information.

88th Precinct Community Council. Monthly meeting. 85 South Oxford St. between Lafayette and Greene avenues. 7:30 pm. Call (718) 636-4511 for information.

68th Precinct Community Council. Monthly meeting. 333 65th St. between Third and Fourth avenues. 7:30 pm. Call (718) 439-4227 for information.

62nd Precinct Community Council. Monthly meeting. 1925 Bath Ave. (at Bay 22nd Street). 7 pm. Call (718) 236-2501 for information.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21

Society for Clinton Hill. General meeting. On the agenda: Atlantic Yards and other developments. Bishop Loughlin Memorial HS (257 Clement Ave., between Lafayette and Greene avenues). 7 pm. Call (718) 875-1855 for information.

Society for Clinton Hill and Fort Greene Association. Screening of "Brooklyn Matters" (Atlantic Yards documentary). Bishop Loughlin Memorial HS (257 Clement Ave., between Lafayette and Greene avenues). 7:30 pm. Call (718) 875-1855 for information.

Community Board 6 Parks and Recreation Committee. On the agenda: Columbia Street football fields at Red Hook Park. Red Hook Recreation Center (155 Bay St. between Clinton and Henry streets). 6:30 pm. Call (718) 643-3027 for information.

THURSDAY, FEB. 22

Community Board 6 Landmarks Committee. On the agenda: Presentation on development of a brownfield at Smith and Fifth streets. PS 32 (317 Hoyt St. between Union and President streets). 6 pm. Call (718) 643-3027 for information.

FRIDAY, FEB. 23

Society for Clinton Hill. Newcomers party. Pillow Cafe (505 Myrtle Ave., between Myrtle and Grand avenues). 7 pm. Call Roslyn Huberman at (718) 499-8362 x11 to RSVP.

To list an event in the Civic Calendar, e-mail newcomer@brooklynpaper.com or fax (718) 834-9278.

PUBLISHERS
Celia Weintraub (ext 104) • Ed Weintraub (ext 105)

EDITOR
Gersh Kuntzman (ext 119)

SENIOR EDITOR/PRODUCTION MANAGER
Vincent DiMillo (ext 125)

GO BROOKLYN/BROOKLYN BRIDE EDITOR
Lisa J. Curtis (ext 131)

ART DIRECTOR
Leah Mitch (ext 127)

WEB DESIGNER
Sylvan Migdal (ext 126)

AD DESIGNER
Kevin Talbot (ext 128)

ASSOCIATE GO EDITOR
Adam Rathe (ext 121)

STAFF REPORTERS
Ariella Cohen (ext 123), Dana Rubinstein (ext 123), Christie Risk (ext 103), Liza Stanton (ext 202)

ADVERTISING SALES
Roberta Brand (ext 117), Liza Mitchell (ext 110), Eric Ross (ext 113), Adam El-Sheemy (ext 109)

OFFICE MANAGER
Chama A. Brown (ext 101)

INTERNS
Rob Erren (ext 121), Michael Giardino (ext 120)

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS
Tom Callan, Dennis Ho, Aaron Greenhood

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Tina Barry, Karen Butler, Nicola Lili, Matthew Lysik

E-mail news releases to newsroom@brooklynpaper.com
E-mail press releases to editor@brooklynpaper.com
E-mail advertising listings to advertising@brooklynpaper.com
E-mail legal notices to legal@brooklynpaper.com
To e-mail a staff member, use last name@brooklynpaper.com

The Brooklyn Paper
Brooklyn's Real Newspaper

Published weekly by Brooklyn Paper Publications Inc.
at 55 Washington Street, Suite 624, Brooklyn, New York 11201 • Phone (718) 834-9350

The Brooklyn Paper's six zones incorporate the following newspapers:
DOWNTOWN Brooklyn Heights Paper, Fort Greene-Cobble Hill Paper, Downtown Brooklyn Paper, Fort Greene-Clinton Hill Paper.
PARK SLOPE Park Slope Paper, Sunset Park Paper, Windsor Terrace Paper.
BAY RIDGE Bay Ridge Paper, Bensonhurst Paper.
KENSINGTON/REDWOOD Midwood Paper, Kensington Paper, Ocean Parkway Paper.
NORTH BROOKLYN Greenpoint Paper, Williamsburg Paper.
SOUTHERN AND EASTERN BROOKLYN Brooklyn View (published independently).

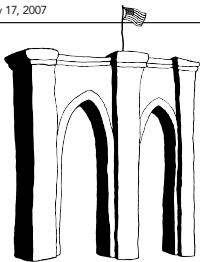
Copyright 2007 Brooklyn Paper Publications Inc. All content prepared by our staff, including ARTWORK, DESIGN and COPY, remain the sole property of The Brooklyn Paper and may not be reproduced without the Publisher's written permission.

EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS: The Brooklyn Paper assumes no responsibility for unsolicited materials. Articles, story ideas, letters, photographs, and all other materials delivered to The Brooklyn Paper, whether or not solicited by Publisher or Publisher's agent, and whether or not they contain or are otherwise accompanied by restrictions on publication or use, will be treated as unsolicitedly assigned to The Brooklyn Paper for publication and copyright purposes, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the author prior to publication. All submitted material becomes the property of The Brooklyn Paper which may edit, publish, and assign the material for use in any medium now known or later developed. Submissions will not be returned and may not be acknowledged.

ADVERTISING: Subject to Terms Governing Acceptance of Advertising published in our latest rate card.

Member: 

Listed: 



THE stoop

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS-DOWNTOWN DUMBO

Defending the new barber

Everybody's talking about the new barber on Clinton Street and his neon sign.

The old-fashioned barbershop, which opened at 104 Clinton St. a month ago, offers old-fashioned haircuts, old-fashioned straight-razor hot-foam shaves and an old-fashioned trim for an old-fashioned price.

So what's with that not-so-old-fashioned sign?

"It's an eyesore!" one person complained on the Brooklyn Heights blog this week. "It's 'hideos,' said another poster.

Eyesore? Hideos? Aren't those words typically reserved for really abominable things, like, oh, I don't know, the Atlantic Yards development that will soon block out all sunlight in Fort Greene?

In other words, can everyone just take a deep breath?

The allegedly hideous sign is actually just a short ticker-style LED-covered mini-marquee that hangs just inside the window. It flashes up information like prices and shop hours in pleasant colors. It's hardly the seizure-inducing, neighborhood-ruining disco ball some people are making it out to be.

And let's face it — without the sign most people would walk right by the below-street-level shop without even noticing. I suppose owner Robert Isakov could have put out an old-fashioned barber pole on the sidewalk — but then people would no doubt complain that it's in the way.

Isakov, who runs the place with his brother Sergei, says he hasn't received any complaints about his sign (the winners have obviously chosen the anonymity of a blog).

"People like it so far. People are happy," said Isakov, who advertises the place as "a classic barber shop with contemporary attitude." Attitude or not, the Clinton Street Barbershop is definitely your father's Oldsmobile, a place where men can go to bond, talk about sports and politics and complain about their wives — not just a place to get their hair cut.

And with the proliferation of unisex salons, good-old-fashioned barbershops are being slowly phased out. There are dozens of hair salons in the Brooklyn Heights area. There are only three or four barbers.

So if it takes a little flash for passers-by to notice Isakov's shop, is that really such a big tradeoff for having such a place?

THE KITCHEN SINK

The fire this time: After a minor blaze shut down their school for a week, parents at St. Charles Borromeo were told this week that the school would not reopen at all. The Brooklyn Diocese cited the school's plummeting enrollment, not the fire.

Seems like the smell of horse manure is still wafting from Cadman Plaza Park. Residents have been complaining that the odor of fertilizer hasn't dissipated yet. We hear it's because the ground wasn't properly turned before the stuff was laid down.

... Capoeira (also known as that cool martial art thing that Darth Maul did in "Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace") could be the latest fitness craze to hit Brooklyn's schools. Omolu Guanahara Capoeira NY, a group dedicated to the Brazilian art, demonstrated some moves at the Packer School last week. No light sabers were involved, police said. ... Heights Vision Center on Montague Street is hosting a Mardi-Gras fundraiser on Feb. 20 to send law students to New Orleans over spring break to provide legal services for Hurricane Katrina victims. One warning, students: The Big Easy natives aren't yelling "Show us your tarts!" ... Really giant Messy Knocks! has found a new president for its charitable foundation. Jonathan Hageman, 26, is the youngest person to ever hold the post.

The outgoing president is taking a position on the board of Brooklyn Children's Museum. Perhaps that's where he met the young Hageman.

Talk to us. Write: Stoop@BrooklynPaper.com.

HEIGHTS LOWDOWN



Christie Rizk



Politicians, labor leaders and activists rallied in Albee Square last week to protest Wal-Mart, even though the new owner of the Gallery mall has said that the Arkansas-based giant will not rent in his new building.

Labor leader: We stopped Wal-Mart at Albee Square

By Christie Rizk

The Brooklyn Paper

It was supposed to be a rally to protest Wal-Mart's possible first New York City store, but it became a victory party.

Union leaders came to Albee Square last week fearing that the recent sale of the Gallery mall would trigger a new attempt by

Wal-Mart to find a location in Brooklyn. But those same leaders and workers ended up cheering as Pat Purcell, an organizer of Wal-Mart Free NYC, told the faithful, "There will be no Wal-Mart in Albee Square!"

The square will soon be bustling with development activity as new owners Acadia Realty Trust and partner Paul

Travis begin demolishing the retail building to build an office and residential tower instead.

But Purcell confirmed that the developers — who paid \$125 million for the site — had promised that the behemoth of Bentonville would not be a part of the plan.

Wal-Mart has said in the past that it had eyed the site, formerly

owned by Thor Equities, which bought it for a mere \$25 million in 2001. Some retail experts have said that a large, big-box store like Wal-Mart — if done properly — could fill a gap in the borough's under-served retail market.

But that wasn't on the agenda last week at the protest-turned-party. One by one, union leaders and elected officials alied with their cause stepped up to the mic to congratulate themselves and promise to keep fighting the retail giant.

"We are not done fighting against Wal-Mart in the city of New York," said Bruce Both, the president of Union Local 1500. "We will oppose them at every turn."

But celebration wasn't the only item on the agenda. Most speakers complained that the new tower does not, as yet, include any below-market-rate rentals or co-ops. And the recent development boom in Downtown Brooklyn — thanks to a 2004 upzoning passed by the city council — has left a lot of small business owners around the Fulton Mall scrambling to save their businesses.

"Our city was built on the blood and sweat of our people," said Joy Chatel, a member of Families United for Racial and Economic Equality. "We can't allow outsiders to come in and take that away from us."

— Christie Rizk

State promises to spare 'park' during BQE rehab

The Brooklyn Paper

Long-overdue repair work on the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway will not devastate Brooklyn Heights Park, state officials said this week.

"We are not using the park as a staging area for the renovation," said Adam Levine, a spokesman for the state Department of Transportation.

Levine's comment comes on the heels of criticism that the agency was planning to repair the three-level section of the highway running alongside the Brooklyn Heights waterfront even as a different state agency was building a housing, commercial and open space development in the same area.

Critics said the park component of the waterfront project would be devastated, citing a report showing that it would be used as a staging area for the BQE repairs.

Robert Perris, district manager of Community Board 2, said the DOT told him the staging area scenario was indeed proposed, but was rejected

last year.

Plans for the renovation — which isn't set to start for at least nine years — haven't been finalized yet, however, and the ambiguity is still causing worry for park advocates.

"We're very concerned," said Judi Francis, president of the Brooklyn Bridge Defense Fund, which has been fighting the state's current development plan in favor of a "real park."

She rejected Levine's assurances. "The [BQE] repair plan will have a profound and stunning impact on the park," said Francis.

"The only way to get into the park is over Furman Street," added Francis. "If they redirect traffic onto Furman, we won't have a park."

Perris has invited state DOT officials to an upcoming community board meeting to speak about the project, but was told that discussing the situation with the community was "premature" at this point.

THE MET IS OPEN ON PRESIDENTS' DAY FROM 9:30 AM TO 5:30 PM

Get to the Met Any Way You Can

MET HOLIDAY MONDAYS
sponsored by Bloomberg

ENJOY FAMILY TOURS,
FILMS FOR KIDS, AND MORE!

For the Presidents' Day family
activities calendar, go to
metmuseum.org

THE METROPOLITAN
MUSEUM OF ART

Visit the Met • See the World

Fri & Sat 9:30 am-9 pm

Sun, Tu-Th 9:30 am-5:30 pm

Fifth Avenue at 82nd Street

212-535-7710

metmuseum.org

Jewels By SATNICK

We offer quality jewelry, precision timepieces and fine giftware at prices to fit every budget.

FREE Lay-a-Way Plan On all Purchases

Hardley F. Satnick
The only Certified Master Watchmaker in all 5 boroughs of New York City serving the community for over 46 years

Visit us at our new location
187 State Street
(off Court St)

(718) 852-1421 • Fax (718) 852-9497 •
HOURS: Mon - Fri: 9:30am - 6:30pm; Sat: 11:00am - 5:00pm

Where go-getters go to get things done.

Let us help you with that.

Shipping Services
Packaging Services
Mailbox & Postal Services
Copying Services
Finishing & Printing Services

The UPS Store®

The UPS Store of Brooklyn Heights
93 Montague Street (at Hicks St)
718-802-0900

Mon-Fri: 8:30am to 7pm | Saturday: 10am to 5pm | Sunday: 10am to 3pm

10% OFF ALL STORE MERCHANDISE WITH THIS AD

Light My Fire!

Fireplace Supplies
logs, matches, toolsets & more

True Value We Appreciate Your Business!

AMERICAN HOUSEWARES
Over 30 Years in Business
Featuring Home Delivery within Brooklyn

85 Court Street in Downtown Brooklyn
Open 7 Days A Week • (718) 243-0844

- Local & Long Distance Services
- Airport Transportation
- Medical Pickup & Drop Off

Myrtle
Car & Limo Service

24 Hour Door-to-Door Service

(718) 230-8100
www.myrtlecarservice.com

Massage Therapy for mind, body & spirit

Dharma HEALING ARTS
Lauren Hampel, LMT
Meditation • Yoga • Reiki • Tai Chi
• Swedish • Shiatsu • Sports
• Hot Stone • Deep Tissue

718-797-5318
COBBLE HILL
Gift Certificates Available

www.dharmanyc.com

China Ocean

Chinese Cuisine
Sushi
Salad

Open 7 Days a Week

Grand Opening

82 Livingston Street
(between Court St. & Boerum Pl.)

FREE Delivery • (718) 260-8870



THE STOOP

CARROLL GARDENS-COBBLE HILL BOERUM HILL RED HOOK

History being sunk in Hook

ALIGHTSHIP is the old maritime equivalent of a crossing-guard in a bright orange vest, a twin-mast "be careful" sign meant to float amidst the ocean's risky shoals.

And for the past 12 years, the masts of one such 683-ton crossing guard have peeked out of the greenish water next to the silver-cone of the Revere Sugar refinery, a sunken safety boat beneath an old ruin.

This week, the masts were junked. It was a fitting, if unceremonious, end for the Coast Guard's "Lightship No. 84," a beacon made obsolete by technology and left to live out its days in a state of leaky despair. There was little hope that after a decade underwater, No. 84's steel hull would be saved.

"I don't want to say that salvage would be impossible," said David Sharps, founder of the neighborhood's Waterfront Museum, "but the longer a boat stays under, the closer to impossible it is."

Sharps knows the challenge intimately. The Waterfront Museum lives inside the nation's last surviving wooden railroad barge. Ninety-three-year-old "Lehigh Valley Barge No. 79" was so neglected when Sharps bought it that he worried it could fall apart, sink and float away as driftwood.

That was 12 years ago and Sharps is still obsessively, meticulously, restoring the caboose-like freighter, now a quirky tourist destination listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

To him, the loss of the lightship is tragic simply because it didn't have to happen. With care and investment, the old boat could have had the same kind of productive afterlife as his barge.

"Red Hook could have had another historic vessel on the waterfront," he said. "The challenge now is making people realize the value of these structures, assign them use and save them."

Sharps makes a good point. The old lightship sank because it wasn't used. Once submerged, it again served a function. The New York Police Department's Harbor Division trained divers on its waterlogged keel. People talked about it: the neighborhood curio so underground it was actually underwater.

And now as rubble, the floating lighthouse has again served a purpose, leaving in its wake one final warning.

"Now it's a reminder of all the rich history that we have in this harbor to preserve, and to enjoy," said Tom Fox, president of Red Hook-based New York Water Taxi.

Talk a walk in Red Hook now. Notice the broken-down warehouses once built for coffee traders. Listen for the toots of the forever-bustling Erie Basin Barge. Step on the cobblestones. These pieces of history work for us. If preservationists want to keep them, they'd better work, too.

THE KITCHEN SINK

A real wheel hazard: A spate of hee-lee-related hallway collisions has **PS 29** cracking down on the trendy roller skate-sneaker hybrids. ... Batali goes Brooklyn: "Iron Chef" **Mario Batali's** famed West Village foodie-destination, Po will replace the less-chichi **Smithy's** on the corner of Sackett Street in March. But don't worry that Smith Street has gone Manhattan: Batali isn't involved in the venture. ... The Mommy Diaries: Got any free time after 3 a.m. feedings, diaper changing and "Mommy and Me" classes? Immortalize your sleepless nights by taking the "Memoirs for Moms" class this spring at Cobble Hill's **Families First**. Call (718) 257-1862 for info. ... **Hannah Senesh Jewish Community Day School** principal **Susan Weinroba** has been named president of the Ravsack, a fast-growing network of independent, progressive Jewish day schools. ... And speaking of the Jews, a young man named **Pablo** celebrated his "Rock" Mirvish last weekend at the **Liberty Heights Top Room** in Red Hook. **Steve Buscemi's** son **Lucien's** band played, and a Stoop spy caught 13-year-old Pablo and his pals moshing to a punk-infused Hava Nagila. As we say in Red Hook, I chaim!

Talk to us. Write: Stoop@BrooklynPaper.com.

BROOKLYN SOUTH



Ariella Cohen



This treeless scene at Richards and Van Dyke streets in Red Hook could soon become bucolic thanks to street planting.

The greening of Red Hook

By Ariella Cohen

The Brooklyn Paper

The seeds of a greener future are about to be planted in one of the city's most notoriously barren neighborhoods.

Sixteen ginkgo, oak and sweet gum seeds, to be exact.

A community group called the Red Hook Initiative announced the good news this week, telling residents that they could expect, in a decade or so growing time, to see 16 big, leafy trees on what is now an especially forlorn stretch of Clinton Street just

west of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway between West Ninth and Center streets.

"I'm hoping in 10 years we will be able to put our picnic tables to good use," said Vanessa Staton, organizer of the program. "Right now, we're ready with the benches, but we don't have enough shade for the picnic."

The trees are a long-overdue effort to bring foliage to a neighborhood that lags behind others in the amount of leafy cover, and leads in asthma rates.

"We know Red Hook has less canopy cover than other neighborhoods," said Parks Department arborist Laura Woolley, "so we

want to make sure we are planting a good mix of big, leafy, pollution-absorbing trees."

Woolley said that ginkgos could fare well in the Hook because of the thick-skinned species' resistance to car exhaust.

The Red Hook Initiative is also asking residents to request more street trees, as the city's forestry division considers such requests each spring.

It is a little known secret that neighborhoods with more trees get the green because they ask for it.

"Now it's Red Hook's turn to make requests," Staton said.

Skin patrol hits Boerum Hill stands

The Brooklyn Paper

Ooh la ugh!

The abundance of quasi-porn magazines on city-owned newsstands has got some parents in Boerum Hill all hot and bothered.

"Naked women in lascivious poses should not be what my daughter sees on her way to school," said Emily Fisher, a Pacific Street mom who recently stopped taking her 9-year-old to the Nevins Street subway station in order to avoid the porn-filled newsstand there.

The sex-drenched "men's interests" glossies are the best sellers. City code doesn't consider these magazines "explicit" because they don't show fully exposed genitalia and, thus, can be sold without breaking city consumer-protection laws that limit city-licensed vendors from selling "sexually explicit materials."

One popular magazine at newsstands in Brooklyn is "SSX," whose latest issue features a buxom woman leaning over in a latex, bikini-like dominatrix suit (see photo).

Fisher recently asked the vendor to move the skin rag off the front rack, but he said he couldn't because the flashy image helped attract customers.

When asked the same question by The Stoop this week, he laughed. "I thought this was America, where there is freedom," he said, turning the question back on The Stoop: "Does this picture embarrass you?"

Before we could answer, a mom standing next to the newsstand pointed to a bare bottom on a fan magazine for Playboy model **Vida Guerra** and said that it should be the vendor who was embarrassed. "I don't think this is right,"

said the mom, Aletha Byard.

"It's too sexy for the street," chimed in Lola Davis, another



Some Boerum Hill parents are upset about quasi-porn at area newsstands.

mom standing nearby. Davis said that she frequently notices groups of kids staring at the tawdry pics.

"They are boys, and girls, just ogling," she said. In the 1990s, the Brooklyn Heights Association asked local merchants to move the sex magazines out of plain view. After some pressure from customers, the smut was moved, BHA President Judy Stanton said.

"I'm not familiar with the titles we had trouble with," she said, "but the pictures spoke for themselves, and the problem was solved." Stanton advised her neighbors in Boerum Hill to approach the newsstand owners. "The magazines will always be a destination [for buyers] whether they are in the front rack or not," she said.

—Ariella Cohen

Massage Therapy for mind, body & spirit

Dharma HEALING ARTS
Lauren Hampel LMT
Meditation • Reiki • Tai Chi
• Swedish • Shiatsu • Sports
• Hot Stone • Deep Tissue
718-797-5318
COBBLE HILL
Gift Certificates Available

Jewels By SATNICK

We offer quality jewelry, precision timepieces and fine giftware at prices to fit every budget.

FREE Lay-a-Way Plan On all Purchases

Hartley F. Satnick
The only Certified Master Watchmaker in all 5 boroughs of New York City serving the community for over 46 years

Visit us at our new location
187 State Street
(off Court St)
(718) 852-1421 • Fax (718) 852-9497 • www.satnick.com
HOURS: Mon - Fri: 9:30am - 6:30pm; Sat: 11:00am - 5:00pm

10% OFF ALL STORE MERCHANDISE WITH THIS AD

Light My Fire!
Fireplace Supplies
logs, matches, toolsets & more

True Value We Appreciate Your Business!
AMERICAN HOUSEWARES
Over 30 Years in Business
Featuring Home Delivery within Brooklyn
85 Court Street in Downtown Brooklyn
Open 7 Days A Week • (718) 243-0844

• Local & Long Distance Services
• Airport Transportation
• Medical Pickup & Drop Off

Myrtle
Car & Limo Service

24 Hour Door-to-Door Service
(718) 230-8100
www.myrtlecarservice.com

China Ocean
Chinese Cuisine
Sushi
Salad
Open 7 Days a Week

Grand Opening
82 Livingston Street
(between Court St. & Boerum Pl.)
FREE Delivery • (718) 260-8870

Where go-getters go to get things done.

Let us help you with that.

Shipping Services
Packaging Services
Mailbox & Postal Services
Copying Services
Finishing & Printing Services

ups
The UPS Store®
The UPS Store of Brooklyn Heights
93 Montague Street (at Hicks St)
718-802-0900
Mon-Fri: 8:30am to 7pm | Saturday: 10am to 5pm | Sunday: 10am to 3pm

THE MET IS OPEN ON PRESIDENTS' DAY FROM 9:30 AM TO 5:30 PM

Get to the Met Any Way You Can

MET HOLIDAY MONDAYS
sponsored by Bloomberg

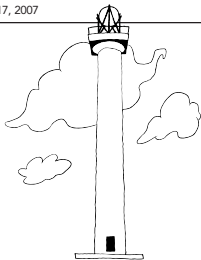
ENJOY FAMILY TOURS, FILMS FOR KIDS, AND MORE!

For the Presidents' Day family activities calendar, go to metmuseum.org

Visit the Met • See the World

THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

Fri & Sat 9:30 am-9 pm Sun, Tu-Th 9:30 am-5:30 pm Fifth Avenue at 82nd Street 212-535-7710 metmuseum.org



THE STOOP

FORT GREENE-CLINTON HILL

Money waiting to be spent

It's bureaucratic bull worthy of a Kafka novel. While Fort Greene Park erodes into disrepair, the money dedicated four years ago to its refurbishment sits mired in governmental red-tape.

This tale of bureaucratic inertia begins in the heady days of 2003, when the Bloomberg Administration was pushing through its rezoning of Downtown Brooklyn. As a carrot to local politicians, "Downtown Czar" Joe Chan — then an assistant to Deputy Mayor Dan Doctoroff — set aside \$350,000 so the Parks Department could hire a consultant to devise a plan for the resurrection of the park.

Charles Jarden, the head of the Fort Greene Park Conservancy, was at the meeting.

"We thought, 'Oh okay, now Parks has all this money to commission a master plan,'" said Jarden.

In landscape architecture circles, the term "master plan" refers to a comprehensive strategy for the restoration of a public space, in this case the 160-year-old park designed by Olmsted and Vaux (the same guys who designed Prospect Park in addition to a well-known, yet inferior, park in Manhattan).

Sadly, Jarden wasn't taking into account a little-known city Catch-22: before a master plan can be created, elected officials must figure out some of the repairs the master plan will call for, and then allocate money to the Parks Department accordingly.

But what makes sense to city bureaucrats proved a "counter-intuitive conundrum" to Jarden. "We thought we had this money designated, but now we can't use it."

This isn't the first time momentum for the park's restoration has been squandered. About 20 years ago, Quennell-Rodtschild, a prominent landscape architecture firm, drafted a master plan. "It was delivered to the Parks Department and probably put on a shelf somewhere," said Nicholas Quennell, a partner in the respected firm. "It was an appeal to preserve and restore the park to what had been intended originally."

Which brings up another question: Does the Parks Department even need to commission a new master plan? Why not just work off the old one?

"The recommendations ... are no longer valid by today's preservation standards," said Parks spokesman Phil Abramson, who also pointed out that "the Quennell-Rodtschild Master Plan was a draft report submitted in 1988 and ... was never finalized or approved by Parks, Landmarks Preservation or the State Historic Preservation Office."

Meanwhile, Jarden continues to confront the labyrinth of governmental policies with admirable equanimity.

"It is the history of a park to have fits and starts," said Jarden. "This park is one of the great parks, and we want to get it right. That's our only relief from the frustration — that we are making a difference slowly."

THE KITCHEN SINK

Watch out **Jacob's Eye!** A new funky accessories shop has just landed on Dekalb and Clinton Avenues, and it's promising its older counterpart some stiff competition. **Tesson Boutique** owner **Aissatou Minihé** calls her business "a contemporary men's and women's accessories shop conceptually inspired by the small communities of Senegal." Finally! After weeks of caffeine-withdrawal headaches, **Pillow Cafe** has reopened at its new spot on Myrtle Avenue, between Ryerson Street and Grand Avenue. You can check out their offerings, and their hours, at www.gillowcafe.org. Or you can just stop by. ... Speaking of the beloved **Pillow Cafe**, the **Society for Clinton Hill** will hold its annual newcomers party there on Friday, Feb. 23. The Society requests that newbies — and old-timers who'd like to meet newbies — RSVP by Feb. 20 to **Roslyn Huebner** at (718) 499-8382 ext. 11.

Talk to us. Write: Stoop@BrooklynPaper.com.

GREENE ACRES



Dana Rubinstein



Fighting, and beating, Wal-Mart

Union members and their elected allies rallied at Albee Square last week to celebrate their success in discouraging Wal-Mart from opening its first New York City store in a soon-to-be-built tower along the popular Fulton Mall.

Curator to Spitzer: Save the Admirals Row at Navy Yard

By Dana Rubinstein

The Brooklyn Paper

A local preservationist has appealed to Gov. Spitzer in a last-ditch effort to save the century-old mansions in the Brooklyn Navy Yard's Admirals Row, which will be demolished to make way for a supermarket.

"Admirals Row is mine and belongs to every citizen of the United States of America," read an impassioned plea to Spitzer from Scott Winter, a local builder and the curator of Brooklyn's Old Museum of Brooklyn

(BOMB), a Wallabout arts institution.

"It appears that you are the only person who, with a stroke of your pen, can undo this madness and insure longevity for Admirals Row," he continued.

The row comprises 10 dilapidated mansions built between 1858 and 1901 to house naval officers. Abandoned decades ago, the mansions are being transferred from the Army Corps of Engineers to the Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation, which will tear them down.

"The acquisition will allow for the construction of a 60,000-square-foot supermar-

ket and a 150,000-square-foot industrial building, which will create a total of 500 new jobs," said Andrew Kimball, the president and CEO of the corporation and a Park Slope resident.

"The supermarket will, for the first time, provide the surrounding community with fresh produce and other quality grocery items at affordable prices."

Kimball has argued that the cost of preserving the homes — \$30 million — is prohibitively high.

Spitzer's office had not yet received the letter and could not comment.

Drink 'til you drop at Yards bar

The Brooklyn Paper

A neighborhood establishment wants you to come in and get completely wasted — and you can thank Bruce Ratner for it.

The JRG Restaurant and Fashion Cafe — which is on Flatbush Avenue between Atlantic and Fifth avenues — is having a hedonistic last hurrah before it is torn down to make way for Ratner's Atlantic Yards megadevelopment.

The bar, which is in the way of the Frank Gehry-designed arena, is liquidating its stock in a \$30, all-you-can-drink bacchanal.

And rest assured — that cash won't buy you more will.

"It's all premium liquor — we're not talking house wine," said the bar's general

manager Ray Rodriguez. Even better, the \$30 gets you 15 percent off all food, which is a substance sometimes ingested during alcoholic binges.

Like any decadent exercise, this one is tinged with a sense of fatalism.

The liquorous deal will last only as long as the bar-cum-restaurant-cum-fashion house does — through the end of the month.

That's because the premises are owned by Forest City Ratner, which has said it intends to start demolition for its 16-tower development as early as next month.

On a recent Tuesday evening, the play to pour liquor into the throats of eager Brooklynites wasn't going so well. The bar was empty, save a few diners and a couple of reporters.

Rodriguez attributed the slow night to the just-beginning snow, and of course, to the fact that it was a Tuesday. But he was optimistic that business would pick up again once the streets became passable and the long President's Day weekend encouraged lots and lots of toasts to our former leaders.

Rodriguez insists the bar will relocate rather than just close down.

"We'll come back even stronger," he said.

He also claimed that JRG Restaurant would move into the Nets arena when it is completed in 2009 — though Forest City Ratner would not comment.

After all the binge-drinking is done, Rodriguez will throw one last two-day bash on March 3 and 4.

— Rubinstein

• Local & Long Distance Services
• Airport Transportation
• Medical Pickup & Drop Off

Atlantic City
Foxwood and
Mohagan Sun
Casinos

Myrtle

Car & Limo Service

24 Hour Door-to-Door Service

(718) 230-8100

www.myrtlecarservice.com

Massage Therapy for mind, body & spirit

Dharma
HEALING ARTS

Lauren Hampel LMT
Masters: AHTA & NCBTMB

• Swedish • Shiatsu • Sports
• Hot Stone • Deep Tissue

718-797-5318
COBBLE HILL

Gift Certificates Available

www.dharmayc.com

10% OFF ALL STORE MERCHANDISE WITH THIS AD

Light My Fire!

Fireplace Supplies
logs, matches,
toolsets & more

True Value We Appreciate Your Business!

AMERICAN
HOUSEWARES

Over 30 Years
in Business
Featuring
Home Delivery
within Brooklyn

85 Court Street in Downtown Brooklyn
Open 7 Days A Week • (718) 243-0844

China Ocean

Chinese Cuisine
Sushi
Salad

Open
7 Days
a Week

Grand Opening

82 Livingston Street
(between Court St. & Boerum Pl.)

FREE Delivery • (718) 260-8870

Where go-getters go to get things done.

Let us help you with that.

Shipping Services
Packaging Services
Mailbox & Postal Services
Copying Services
Finishing & Printing Services

ups

The UPS Store®

The UPS Store of Brooklyn Heights
93 Montague Street (at Hicks St)
718-802-0900

Mon-Fri: 8:30am to 7pm | Saturday: 10am to 5pm | Sunday: 10am to 3pm

Jewels By **SATNICK**

We offer quality jewelry, precision timepieces and first giffware at prices to fit every budget.

Hartley F. Satnick
The only Certified Master Watchmaker in all 5 boroughs of New York City serving the community for over 46 years

FREE Lay-a-Way Plan On all Purchases

Visit us at our new location
187 State Street
(off Court St)

(718) 852-1421 • Fax (718) 852-9697
HOURS: Mon - Fri: 9:30am - 6:30pm; Sat: 11:00am - 5:00pm

THE MET IS OPEN ON PRESIDENTS' DAY FROM 9:30 AM TO 5:30 PM

Get to the Met Any Way You Can

MET HOLIDAY MONDAYS
sponsored by Bloomberg

ENJOY FAMILY TOURS, FILMS FOR KIDS, AND MORE!

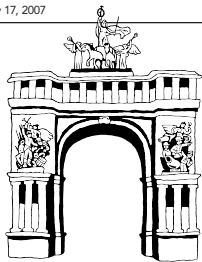
For the Presidents' Day family activities calendar, go to metmuseum.org

Visit the Met • See the World

THE METROPOLITAN

MUSEUM OF ART

Fri & Sat 9:30 am-9 pm Sun, Tu-Th 9:30 am-5:30 pm Fifth Avenue at 82nd Street 212-535-7710 metmuseum.org



THE stoop

PARK SLOPE PROSPECT HEIGHTS, SUNSET PARK WINDSOR TERRACE, KENSINGTON

No fury like a stroller scorned

JUST how "friendly" must a "family friendly" store be? Our local Barnes and Noble was accused last month of not being friendly enough — despite allowing parents to treat its downstairs like a library and even providing a large train set for kids to play with — after posting a sign asking parents to check their strollers at the door rather than going downstairs with them.

"Due to overcrowding, strollers are NOT allowed downstairs," the sign said. "Please park your stroller in the designated area on the first floor."

Check our strollers! Heaven forbid that we Park Slope parents might have to do something even slightly inconvenient in the name of the greater good.

Indeed, parent outrage about the supposed new regulation was swift and furious: many complained to the management, but even more vented their frustrations on the Park Slope Parents Web site, which has the free-speech vitality of London's Speakers' Corner, but often adds the venom of talk radio.

Naturally, after the people of the People's Republic of Park Slope had spoken, the sign was taken down.

Too bad. It turns out that the sign on the door was just a suggestion, said Carolyn Brown of Barnes and Noble. The store was trying to address the traffic jam that occurs, especially on cold or rainy days when the stroller set descends (literally and figuratively) on the downstairs kids' area. Brown said the store simply wanted to tell parents that there was a safe spot to leave the buggies on the first floor.

No good deed ever goes unpunished. But I think Brown and her overly friendly minions would have been completely justified if they opened a can of Parent Whup all over Park Slope. The MacLaren-jam is only part of the problem that the store faces as it tries to balance its family friendly atmosphere with safety and cleanliness.

Let's face it, the children's section of that store is a mess — and it's our fault, not Brown's.

I was in the children's department on a cold weekend day last month and the place was packed with kids playing with the train set in one corner, sitting on the stage in the other, and camped out everywhere in between. Kids were pulling books off the shelves and stomping on them. Parents were ignoring their young charges and leaving the books on the floor when they left. Books were flung about everywhere, bent and ripped. It was chaos.

The woman who works that area was clearly overwhelmed. At one point, she called security. Yes, they posted a security guard in the children's section to deter people from letting their kids pull books off the shelves and leaving the mess behind.

Good for them! If parents can't even be bothered to leave their strollers upstairs, perhaps the presence of a security guard will at least deter their kids from throwing books all over.

It is in Barnes and Noble's best interest to stay family friendly. But how friendly must it be?

The good news, of course, is that the stroller-driven life is a short period of parenthood. Soon enough, the buggies disappear from your life. Come to think of it, my kids don't even go to the children's section anymore. There is something even more frightening than a stroller policy at Barnes and Noble: the teen section!

THE KITCHEN SINK

Gabriel Montero, the piano virtuoso who was seen on "60 Minutes" last December, has been spotted around the Slope. Her hang-out is sometimes the **Two Little Red Hens**, where part of the taping for the once-popular news magazine was done. ... Set your calendars: **The Grand Army Plaza Coalition**, which is trying to turn this circular speedway into a nice place to relax, is hosting a "community planning workshop" on March 10 at the **Brooklyn Public Library's** central branch on, conveniently enough, **Grand Army Plaza**. To attend, email rsvp@grandarmyplaza.org by the end of the month. ... No parent's CD collection is complete without **Park Slope Parents**. See **SINK 4**

PS ... I LOVE YOU



Nica Lalli



Aaron's, a women's department store on Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, has closed and will be subdivided into small offices.

Aaron's closes, but future of Fifth Ave corner is bright

By Michael Gardina

for The Brooklyn Paper

A popular woman's department store on Park Slope's Fifth Avenue has closed — even as its owner is working to create a business improvement district along the strip.

Aaron's closed in January after 40 years on Fifth Avenue near 17th Street.

"It was a wonderful business," said Howard Mankin, son and grandson of the original owners. "It ran its course. Now it's time to think about the best use for the property."

Given the fact that he's a real-estate developer, that "best use" is probably apartments, Mankin said.

"Eventually I'm going to put apartments

in here," Mankin said. "And I'm going to name the building after my parents."

Until that happens, Mankin will subdivide the building for smaller tenants.

"It's a unique chance for me to help change the area," he said.

Peggy Gandrau, a local café owner, has taken a space in the building, planning to open up a wine bar, Vin Rouge, by next month.

She also believes that the loss of Aaron's will be a long-term gain for the neighborhood.

"The neighborhood is very excited about the new businesses coming in," Gandrau said.

The new spirit is embodied in Mankin and others' call for a business improvement district running from Berkeley Place to 18th

Street.

A BID will bring in more business to the area, said Jeremy Laufer, district manager of Community Board 7.

Once a BID is formed, local business owners will each pay an average of \$485 annually for better sanitation, more trees, bike racks and yearly Christmas lights.

"I want to see more people walking the street at 8 p.m.," Mankin said, who grew up in the neighborhood and vows never to leave.

Despite the bright future, Mankin does regret closing the store that his grandfather Ben and father David opened four decades ago.

"I've been coming here since I was 5," Mankin said. "I put together garment boxes for my grandfather for a nickel a piece."

Icicle thieves at work for MTA

The Brooklyn Paper

After nearly a year of complaints, the MTA will repair a Windsor Terrace subway station that, in cold weather, resembles the ice castle of a snow queen.

But the Church Avenue stop on the F line is no fairy tale. According to Windsor Terrace resident Cynthia Magnus, it was a disaster waiting to happen.

"The other day when it was freezing, there were stalactites hanging from the ceiling," said Magnus.

"I called the MTA about it five times, but you can never get through to anyone, and they never call you back. It's a very hazardous condition."

But MTA New York City



Ice-covered wall at the F station at Church Avenue.

Transit told The Stoop that it has taken notice. Last Wednesday, the agency blocked off three of the five staircases in the station — one at the Albemarle Street exit, the other two at the Church Avenue exit.

At the Albemarle staircase, one sign said the work would be completed by the fall, while another sign said the work would be done by April 14.

"We are in contact with the Department of Environmental

Protection, and that they will work together to try to resolve it as soon as possible," said Deirdre Parker, a spokeswoman.

But like that old Cankills joke — "the food here is horrible! And such small portions!" — the agency couldn't win with Magnus, despite the repairs.

"Now it's going to be shut down until September," she said. "This is just inconvenient."

— Dana Rubinstein

Katina's 'Purity' scrubbed

The Brooklyn Paper

A plan for the long-shuttered Katina's Diner to become a southern outpost of the New Purty Diner fell through suddenly last week, leaving fans of the Seventh Avenue greasy spoon wondering if the other soufflé had fallen.

As The Stoop reported two weeks ago, a deal was all but signed that would have New Purty's owners take over Katina's, which is undergoing renovations to its Seventh Avenue and 12th Street location.

All that remained was for Gus, Katina's long-time owner (who doesn't give his last name), to sign on the dotted line.

But Gus backed out of selling his corner spot to

his pals, the Koloskas family, which bought the New Purty Diner from Gus six years ago.

"This time, Gus said the deal was taking too long."

"They were playing games," he told The Stoop. "Last time, the deal took six months. I don't need that kind of problem."

This week found Gus, fresh from a trip to Florida, back at Katina's making last-minute repairs so he can open by the middle of March.

"A lot of people know this place, I don't want to lose any more customers over this," he said.

As for the Koloskas brothers, they are still hoping to open another Park Slope restaurant, maybe even in South Slope, setting up the ultimate egg sandwich smackdown! — Nica Lalli

Barnes & Noble Events

Kai Meyer
The Stone Light
READING / BOOK SIGNING

Friday, February 23rd, 6:30 PM
267 Seventh Avenue at Sixth Street
Park Slope (718) 832-9066

As the Egyptians begin raising the dead to add to their mummy armies, Merle, the Flowing Queen, and Vermithrax the flying lion travel to Hell in hopes of forming an alliance with Lord Light in the second thrilling installment of the Dark Reflections Trilogy (*The Water Mirror*).

Get more info and get to know your favorite writers at www.bn.com/events
All events subject to change, so please contact the store to confirm.

BARNES & NOBLE
BOOKSELLERS
www.bn.com

seventh ave. FRAMING

- Custom Framing
- Ready-Made Frames
- Posters & Prints
- Friendly Service

374 7th Avenue
(bet. 11th & 12th Sts)
718-832-0655

Salsa Tango Ballroom Kids Dance Classes

TWO LOCATIONS:
55 4th Avenue • Bklyn, NY
Bet. Bergen & Dean Street

888 Broadway • Bklyn, NY 11206

Tel. 718-602-1322
FOR RATES AND CLASS TIMES LOG ON TO:
www.salsatangoballet.com

GROOMING • BOARDING
Dogs & Cats • Your Inspection Invited!

We Service the Movie Stars!

WE SHIP over 35 breeds

PUPPIES & KITTENS!
Best Health • Home Bred • Temperament

5 STAR

(718) 258-2342
PuppyParadise.com
2082 Flatbush Ave. Bklyn, NY

A-Z Dental, PC
Family Dentistry
Gentle, Painless Touch

- FREE Examination and Consultation with any dental work
- Insurance and Medicaid plans accepted
- Ultimate 4-step sterilization
- Comprehensive Care, including teeth whitening, bad breath, etc.

\$55 EXAMINATION, NECESSARY X-RAYS AND TEETH CLEANING with this ad

332 9th St. (718) 832-1222
(Bet. 5th-6th Aves.) www.azdental.com
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK •

LOOK GREAT, SEE GREAT!

Specialists on Staff:
Kevin S. Meyers, M.D., Ophthalmology
Eric Colman, O.D., Optometry
Tatyana Galinsky, O.D.

- Comprehensive Eye Exams
- Prescription Filled
- Contact Lenses
- Glaucoma And Cataract Testing And Treatment
- Laser Vision Consultation
- Newest diagnostic equipment
- Full diabetic eyecare

Most Medical Insurance Accepted • Union Plans • Medicaid • Medicare Discounts For Senior Citizens • Transportation provided if eligible

9th Street Optical

332 9th Street • Brooklyn (718) 965-2545
(between 5th & 6th Ave.)

Brooklyn Dog House
daycare & boarding

718 222-4900
7am-10pm weekdays, 9am-10pm weekends

- 2 supervised playgrounds — fun & SAFE
- web cams — watch your dog play
- curbside pick up and drop off
- air-conditioned / sprinklered building
- individual attention
- multi-pet & long-term boarding discounts

327 Douglass (at 4th Ave in Park Slope)
brooklyndoghouse.com

Brooklyn's Best HOTEL

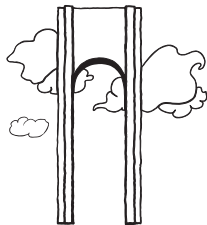
Free Continental Breakfast • 60 Rooms With All Amenities
Meeting Hall • Fitness Room • 4 Jacuzzi Rooms • Free Wireless Internet
Secure Limited Parking • View On The Bay • Close To Restaurants

Convenient Location

Comfort INN
BY CHOICE HOTELS

8 mi. to JFK • 20 mi. to LaGuardia

3218 Emmons Ave. Bklyn, NY SHEEPSHEAD BAY
(betw. Coyle & Bragg) E-mail: GM.NY275@choicehotels.com
Fax (718) 368-3963 Tel: (718) 368-3334



THE STOOP

BAY RIDGE-BENSONHURST

Searching for Tony Manero

Is there anyone left in Brooklyn who recognizes the name Tony Manero?

"I know who Tony Manero is, but I might be the only one left in Bensonhurst," said Howard Feuer, district manager of Community Board 10. "There is no 'Little Italy' left in Brooklyn — they all moved away."

No Little Italy?

Feuer's first year as district manager, 1977, was the year "Saturday Night Fever" opened across the country. While most of America probably thought John Travolta's alter ego was a fictional character,

Feuer remembers seeing plenty of Travolta wannabes cat-calling the ladies from their muscle cars up and down 86th Street.

"You wouldn't believe the crowds just cruising — just like the movie," Feuer added. "But now the demographic has changed." Manero's Little Italy has become little and littler, morphing into a Very Little Italy before becoming the Micro-Mini-Italy of today. According to the 2000 census, the number of residents of Italian descent is down to 59,112 — half that of two decades ago.

Many of the original houses dating back over 90 years are being torn down and replaced by three-story brick apartment buildings and multi-family condos.

Top Grade Meat? It is now a 99 Cent store.

The holiday lights along 18th Avenue that used to shine from Thanksgiving to New Year's were absent last year — and local officials said they may become a permanent ghost of Christmas past.

The lack of a cohesive trade association took the blame. "Do I think that there will be a Little Italy in Bensonhurst 10 years from now?" said Don Trunzo, who owns Trunzo's, a popular Italian meat and cheese market at 6802 18th Ave. "I don't think one exists today."

How could a neighborhood that was once so vibrant that Hollywood set a seminal disco movie there be dying? Where did all the Italians go?

"Sometimes you don't have to kill yourself in order to kill yourself," Manero once said in all his wisdom.

In the case of Bensonhurst's Italian culture, you don't have to kill yourself at all — just find a bridge. "Italian children grew up believing that life was better across the bridge in Staten Island and New Jersey," Feuer said. "When the Italians moved out, other immigrants saw Bensonhurst as an opportunity and the neighborhood followed suit."

No one squeezed the Italians out of Bensonhurst. They just wanted to live somewhere else.

"It happened within the last 10 years," said Trunzo. "The kids got married and the parents followed the kids right across the bridge."

Bensonhurst is now a melting pot, home of Mexican restaurants, Russian jewelers, and the number of Chinese grocery stores has reached 15. What was once known as "Little Italy" could now just as easily be called Little Russia, Mexico, or China.

"Today it is easier to find a good sushi restaurant than an Italian one," Feuer added.

The moment when California rolls outnumber calzones marks a safe time to begin to write the obituary for Brooklyn's "Little Italy," and along with it the memories of Tony Manero.

But don't bury the past just yet.

"I'm looking for Tony Manero," I said to the counterman at Lenny's Pizza on 86th Street and 19th Avenue. He hardly looked up, pointing to series of framed pictures memorializing that famous scene where Manero visited for a double-decker slice.

"You gonna order something?" he asked, so I told him I wanted the double-decker.

Tony Manero — Stayin' alive!

THE KITCHEN SINK

It's the perfect gift for your next big fat Italian wedding! Bay Ridge's **George Guida** has published his satirical poetry collection, "Love Italian." Good luck, George. We can't wait for the sequel, "High Italians!"

62nd Precinct commander **John Sprague** wants to get the word out that a new program in New York allows anonymous tipsters who report illegal firearms to earn a \$1,000 reward. ... **Rep. Jerry Nadler** (D-Coney Island) isn't happy about the Department of Sanitation's proposal to construct a **garbage transfer station** at the foot of Shore Parkway. Nadler is pushing for more funding to make sure that the required dredging doesn't contaminate the water supply — an issue that **Assemblyman William Colton** (D-Bensonhurst) first championed. ... **Mrs. Fiore**'s pre-K class at **DGK Holy Cross School** was the scene of a heated hockey fiasco. According to witnesses, a shoving match occurred when two 3-year-old girls both thought it was their turn at the square. Both parties were given a five-minute time out and have since reconciled. ... How about a race, boys? New **three-bedroom luxury units** on 92nd Street between Third and Fourth avenues start at \$2,200 and offer decks, parking and two bathrooms including one Jacuzzi tub.

Talk to us. Write: Stoop@BrooklynPaper.com.

YELLOW HOOKER

Matthew Lysiak



Teresa Maresa, a Bay Ridge environmentalist, got a ticket for litter from a Sanitation Department enforcement agent. She's annoyed to say the least.

Green warrior gets litter ticket

By Matthew Lysiak

The Brooklyn Paper

Don't leave your house on a windy day — it could cost you \$100.

A Bensonhurst environmental leader is fighting two summonses she received for trash she says was blown on her front lawn — and her local community board wants answers from the Department of Sanitation.

Teresa Maresa, who helped found a Bensonhurst recycling program, among other green works, said she received the two \$100 citations for pieces of paper that were blown into her yard when she was not there.

"I go to bed crying at night over the irony that the environmentalist of the year is getting a slap in the face from the DOS," said Maresa.

"I am the kind of woman who doesn't walk by a piece of trash on the street without picking it up. I can't express to you how upsetting this is."

To show her commitment — and demonstrate what she called the absurdity of the Sanitation Department's enforcement effort — Maresa attended a recent Community Board 11 meeting with a plastic bag filled with scraps of trash she claims were blown into her yard.

CB11 District Manager Howard Feuer said that Maresa's is one of several complaints his office received from residents

who believe that Sanitation agents unfairly ticketed them.

"We are aware of this and we are going to take care of it," Feuer said.

The community board passed a resolution requesting that the DOS stop issuing summonses until the board has time to complete a review.

"They are just looking for more revenue," added CB11 Chairman Bill Guarinello. "This is a clear abuse of the public."

A Sanitation spokesperson would not comment for this story.

Meanwhile, Maresa will bring her bag of trash, her tears and her "Not guilty" plea to court next week to fight the charges.

Asian market for Dyker Heights

By Matthew Lysiak

The Brooklyn Paper

A former Dyker Heights movie theater that the city hoped to turn into a school will instead become a grocery store — and local residents are overjoyed.

Great Wall Supermarket is scheduled to open its 10th city store this May in the defunct Fortway Theater, which is 14 blocks from the nearest supermarket.

"It's about time," said resident Ecliffie Simon. "I have had to walk all the way to Third



Spiro Geroulanos (left), owner of Fortway site, is congratulated by Councilman Vince Gentile (right) and Borough President Markowitz over the plan to open a supermarket there.

Avenue for my groceries."

The supermarket will not only be a cut above the average greengrocer (thanks to 20,000 square feet of space) but will also employ more than 50 people, its owner said.

This is wonderful news," said Community Board 10 District Manager Josephine Beckman, who lives a few blocks from the site.

The School Construction Authority originally eyed the Fortway, on Fort Hamilton Parkway near 67th Street, and locals have been eager for more classroom

See **SHOP** on page 4

Ovington Ave gets closer to history

By Matthew Lysiak

The Brooklyn Paper

A group of artists purchased the Ovington Farm in 1850 with visions of artistic immortality — now almost 150 years later they may finally have achieved it.

The city Landmarks Preservation Commission is considering a request by residents to create a historic district on Oving-

ton Avenue between Third and Ridge avenues.

"This is one of the only streets in Bay Ridge with all brownstones," said Susan Palaski, president emerita of the Bay Ridge Historical Society. "They already designated Senator Street, so we suggested that Ovington is also deserving."

The proposal will be considered next month, Kathy Howe, a specialist with the New York

State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, told the Bay Ridge Historical Society, Community Board 10 and residents of the block at a Feb. 13 meeting.

If passed, the designation would mean that homeowners would still be able to make changes to their buildings — but it would prevent the state from widening the road, which had been feared.

Landmarks designation also

qualifies homeowners for tax reductions and loans if they promise not to change the signature brownstone facade.

"In addition to preserving the historic beauty of Bay Ridge, it also increases the value of the property," said Palaski.

But the designation prevents any aspiring artists from painting a brownstone bright pink, like one free-spirited resident famously did in Park Slope.

Brooklyn Dog House
daycare & boarding
718 222-4900
7am-10pm weekdays, 9am-10pm weekends

- 3 supervised playgrounds — fun & SAFE
- web cams — watch your dog play
- curbside pick up and drop off
- air-conditioned / sprinklered building
- individual attention
- multi-set 6 long-term boarding discounts

327 Douglass (at 9th Ave in Park Slope)
brooklyndoghouse.com

Mailbox Suites
2 months FREE!
when you purchase 10 months @ \$14.98/mo.
plus FREE incoming fax service
1,000 BUSINESS CARDS — \$40

FedEx Authorized FedEx Shipping Center
Ground & Express • FedEx Air pick up 7pm daily (Sat. @ 2pm)
NYC 6904 Colonial Road (718) 238-4200
Postal Service Mon-Fri: 9am-5pm, Sat: 10am-5pm

Fast Alterations Dry Cleaning

Tailor J, Inc.
278 73rd St.
(718) 853-8725
tailorj.com
Mon-Sat: 8:00am-7pm

STAIR LIFTS

FREE Estimate and in-home consultation
FREE Installation
FREE Delivery

DERMER PHARMACY & SURGICAL
2064 Flatbush Ave. • (718) 377-4900

The David Berg Lecture Series Presents
FROM KESER TO MALCHUS: UNCOVERING CHASSIDISM

A 10-Week series on Chassidism from the BeShT to The Rebbe: Its History, Philosophy, and Impact on the 21st Century with Rabbi Aaron L. Raskin

All Classes are FREE and are held on Mondays, 8-9pm

Knowledge of Hebrew is not required

Congregation B'nai Avraham
117 Remsen Street — Brooklyn, NY 11201
(718) 596-4840 Ext. 18
www.bnaiavraham.com • www.heightstchabad.com

Women Only!
Hollywood Fitness Nautilus Training
\$19.99/month

- no yearly contract
- no enrollment fee

Hollywood TANS on premises

7414 13th Avenue (74th & 75th Streets) (718) 238-1700
Mon-Fri: 8am-11pm; Sat-Sun: 9am-9pm • Free Parking

Smart folks learn early on to call The Brooklyn Paper to advertise their business.

The Brooklyn Paper
(718) 834-9350
ads@brooklynpaper.com

Loose Dentures?
GO AHEAD... Eat what you want!

Visit Dr. Tony Farha in the morning, have the "Mini-Implant System" placed in less than two hours, then go out and enjoy your favorite lunch. No more messy adhesive or pastes.

As recently demonstrated by Dr. Tony on ABC & Fox News

- This advanced system is FDA-Approved.
- It is a **one-step**, non-surgical procedure.
- No sutures, nor the typical months of healing.
- No pain or discomfort.
- Affordable (Payment Plans available and Insurance coverage)

Dr. Tony is recognized as a Professor of the Mini Dental Implant.

***ONLY \$495 FOR DENTURE!**
Limited Time Offer
*with a purchase of MDI

Call today for your **FREE Consultation**
718-833-6895
461 77th St — Bay Ridge • 1412 Richmond Rd — Staten Island
www.oraldentalcare.com

Pet Health Questions?

Ask Dr. Dendtler

Providing Veterinary Care

at

Kiki's Pet Spa and Boutique

Dr. Pamela Dendtler

Advanced Professional Training®
The Animal Medical Center NYC



*Vaccinations *Hill's Prescription Diets
*Skin Disorders *Microchip Implants
*Dental Care *Surgery
*House Calls *Lab Tests

239 Dekalb Ave.

(Vanderbilt Ave. & Clermont Ave.)

(718) 789-7170

www.sixhaveananimalclinic.com

Salsa Tanga
Bachata
Rika Dance
Classes

TWO LOCATIONS
55 4th Avenue • Bklyn, NY
bet. Bergen & Dean Street

888 Broadway • Bklyn, NY 11206

Tel. 718-602-1322

FEW DATES AND CLASS TIMES LISTED ON THE
www.salsatangadancestudio.com

Brooklyn Dog House
daycare & boarding

718 222-4900
7am-4pm weekdays, 9am-10pm weekends

- supervised playgroups - fun & SAFE
- walk camp - fetch your dog
- curbside pickup and drop off
- air-conditioned / sprinklered building
- individual attention
- multi-pet & long-term boarding discounts

327 Douglass (at 4th Ave in Park Slope)
brooklyndoghouse.com

COFFEES, GIFT BASKETS, & GOURMET FOODS

"D'Amico: The Best Cup of Coffee in the City"
— Fox 5 Good Day New York

309 Court Street • damicofoods.com • (718) 875-5403

Leave packages with us. And worries behind.

As your neighborhood shipping center we offer many services in addition to packing and shipping. Stop in to find out what we can offer you.

COPY SERVICE • OFFICE SUPPLIES
FAX SERVICE • GIFT CARDS • BINDING LAMINATING
PASSPORT PHOTOS • MAILBOX RENTALS

COBBLE HILL VARIETY & MAILING CENTER
495 Henry Street • (718) 852-8844
Open 7 Days 'til 9pm

The Most Memorable Funeral
Fl. Greene can offer your loved one

Enjoy the serenity of a comfortable chapel located in the historical Fort Greene-Clinton Hill area.

Services customized to meet your needs.

Serving Fort Green-Clinton Hill for over 40 years

Robert F. Cranford Funeral Home
203 Dekalb Ave. (bet. Adelphi & Carlton)
(718) 625-4656

FUNERAL DIRECTORS:
Robert F. Cranford & Eva J. Cranford

New order for the court

The Brooklyn Paper

A nearly empty office building in Brooklyn Heights that once housed the Bankruptcy Court is being converted to condominiums.

The office building at 75 Clinton St. runs the full block between Montague and Remsen streets, and contains three retail spaces on the ground floor with offices filling the eight stories above.

Though most of the building will be turned into condos, the Rite-Aid store in the building on the corner of Montague Street is staying.



This building on Clinton Street is being turned into condos.

The other two shops, Photo Real and Bolton's will close.

Most of the building's offices have been empty since the judges, clerks and paralegals of the bankruptcy court moved out last year.

A federal probation service remains in the building, but a retail space in the basement has been vacant for several years.

Permits filed with the Department of Buildings allow only for interior demolition work so far.

Clinton Realty Holdings, the New Jersey-based company that owns the building, did not return phone calls.

Find a unique and personal gift for a pretty lady



burke talon

A WOMEN'S BOUTIQUE IN COBBLE HILL

192 Amity St. Bklyn, NY 11201 (212) 812-3994

in between Court and Clinton

Heights home invasion

By Lilo H. Stainton and Josh Saul

The Brooklyn Paper

An 82-year-old woman was robbed by a thug who hid inside her Monroe Place building and awaited her return on Feb. 10, police said.

When the elderly victim came home, around 4:45 pm, the man lurking in the vestibule rushed her, snatched her bag and ran off. She was unable to get a good look at the thief.

The purse held credit cards, unused checks and a Social Security card.

Girls gone wild
A shoplifting spree turned very very violent when two teens tried to shoplift items from an Atlantic Terminal Mall department store on Feb. 11.

When a security guard stopped the 18- and 19-year-old girls at 5 pm, they attacked.

When the dust settled, the girls were in cuffs and the security guards were nursing minor cuts.

Cell swipes
A teenager stole the cellphone of a younger boy outside a branch library on Gidman Plaza West on Feb. 9, cops said.

The 13-year-old victim was walking past the branch, near Clark Street, shortly before 6 pm when he was robbed. The teenager grabbed the cellphone from his bag and bolted across the street.

Meanwhile, two cellphone heists were reported in the 88th Precinct.

A thief stole the cellphone out of a teenager's hand on Washington Avenue on Feb. 11. The teen was using his 45-year-old mom's phone at around 1:30 pm when the bandit struck.

And on Feb. 6, a cellphone belonging to 15-year-old boy was stolen by two other lads who attacked him at the corner of Lafayette and Clinton avenues, cops said.

One of the perp's threw a punch at the teen, but did not connect. But that didn't stop the bullies from getting away with the phone in the 3 pm heist.

Snooze & lose
A midday snooze on Feb. 11 ended with a rude awakening when a 38-year-old man looked out his window to see an empty spot on Waverly Avenue where his car had been.

The sleepy victim awoke just before noon to find his 2004

green Jeep Liberty had been stolen from its parking space between Dekalb and Lafayette avenues.

The car was valued at \$3,000, the victim told cops.

Barb and cue
A pool table battle turned violent at a Smith Street bar on Feb. 10, leaving one man with a bruised noggin and landing another in jail, police said.

The 28-year-old victim said he and a 35-year-old female friend were shooting billiards at the tavern, near Dean Street, it's not clear what sparked the dispute around 11:30, but eventually another man struck the victim on the back of the head with a pool cue.

When the victim identified his attacker, 84th Precinct police officer Kevin Schaeffer arrested the 36-year-old on assault charges.

The music died
A ski-mask-wearing thug ripped the MP3 player out of a teenager's hand as she walked along Dekalb Avenue on Feb. 9.

The 16-year-old victim was near the corner of Washington Avenue at around 4 pm when the bandit rushed over and grabbed the Microsoft Zune.

Purse grab
A pair of thugs showed and robbed a woman as she approached her Bergen Street home on Feb. 8, police said.

The 25-year-old victim was nearing her house, between Hoyt and Bond streets, around 7:30 pm, when the robbers attacked. They rushed her from behind, pushed her to the pavement, grabbed her bag and ran off before she could see them.

The purse held her driver's license, credit cards and a cellphone.

I'll be your bridge from where you are to where you want to be

ELLEN GOTTILIEB
BROOKLYN Bridge Realty Ltd.

211 Court Street Brooklyn 917.797.1351 718.625.3700 x 112 brooklynbridge Realty.com

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

First A.M.E. Zion Church
54 MacDonough St. (bet. Tompkins & Marcy Ave.)
Bicentennial-Silver Jubilee, Brooklyn
Sunday School 9:45 am
Morning Worship 11:00 am
Wednesday Midweek Service/Bible Study 6:30 pm
(718) 638-3343
Dr. David M. Mitchell, Pastor LMD 16

Congregation Kol Israel
Located in Prospect Heights since 1924
603 St. Johns Place
Ded. Classroom & Franklin
638-6583
Rabbi Elkanah Schwartz
Fri. at Sunset • Sat. 10:30am
10:45/12:00

Congregation B'nai Jacob
Park Slope Synagogue
401 9th St. bet 6th & 7th Ave.
718-832-1260
Services: 7:15 Morning Minyan
Shabbat: Fri. Sundown Sat. 9:30am
CLASSES/EVENTS/HOLIDAYS
www.bnaiajacob.org LMD 16

Congregation Mount Sinai
250 Cadman Plaza W.
Conservative/Egalitarian
A House for Prayer / A Home for People
718-875-9124
Friday Eve. Services 6:30pm
Saturday Morning 10:00am
Rabbi Joseph Potashnik LMD 16

Shabbat Shalom!

B'nai Avraham
www.bnaiaavraham.com

Candle Lighting

Mishpatim
Fri., February 16, before 5:30pm

Terumah
Fri., February 23, before 5:21pm

Congregation B'nai Avraham
117 Remsen Street - Brooklyn, NY 11201
(718) 596-4840 Ext. 18
www.bnaiaavraham.com • www.heightschabad.com

Teen targeted

A man pretending to be friendly robbed a 13-year-old boy on the corner of Atlantic and Third avenues, on Feb. 7, police said.

The stranger walked up behind the youngster around 8:40 am and placed one hand on his shoulder.

"Do you have any money? Give me your money, or I'm going to have to stab you," the thief insisted.

The victim didn't see a knife, but he turned over his cellphone and \$2.

TV taken
Thieves managed to swipe a television set from a State Street residence on Feb. 11, while the 73-year-old owner was upstairs, police said.

The burglars kicked in the door at the home, near Hoyt Street, just after 4 pm. They snatched up the \$1,000 Toshiba set and dashed back onto the street before the victim realized what had happened.

Copy shop hit
In some ways, the victim was lucky. A thief who stole a woman's purse at a Court Street copy shop on Feb. 8 was unable to use her credit cards to make illegal purchases, despite repeated attempts, police said.

The 43-year-old State Street resident also lost her health insurance card and a Social Security card in the 6 pm theft at the photocopy franchise near Montague Street.

DUMBO burg
Thieves took everything except the kitchen sink — literally. Someone swiped nearly \$8,000 worth of kitchen appliances from a Water Street office last week, police said.

The burglars broke into the site, near Adams Street, some time between midnight on Feb. 2 and 9 am on Feb. 8.

Atlantic armed
A man lost his wallet and a \$700 diamond earring to a thief with a knife who robbed him on Jan. 30, police said.

The thug robbed the 25-year-old victim around 11:30 pm, as the man made his way along Atlantic Avenue, near Henry Street, pulled out a black gravity knife and insisted, "Run your s---."

PANORAMIC VIEWS!

ELLEN GOTTILIEB
BROOKLYN Bridge Realty Ltd.

211 Court Street Brooklyn 917.797.1351 718.625.3700 x 112 brooklynbridge Realty.com

206 Court St. 718 596-3333
See our listings: COBBLEHEIGHTS.COM

Renovated 4 story, 5 BR, 4 bath
Carroll Gardens rowhouse. Full basement. \$1,649,000.

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the Second day of January, 2007, bearing Index Number 1000012007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Thomas Torres Bolea. My present name is Thomas Torres Bolea. My present address is 415 Lafayette Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11228. My place of birth is Brooklyn, New York. My date of birth is October 19, 1988.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the First day of February, 2007, bearing Index Number 10000507, 2007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Blane Malin. My present name is Blane Malin. My present address is 223 East 27 Street, Brooklyn, New York 11226. My date of birth is June 17, 1963.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the First day of February, 2007, bearing Index Number 10000507, 2007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Blane Malin. My present name is Blane Malin. My present address is 223 East 27 Street, Brooklyn, New York 11226. My date of birth is June 17, 1963.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the First day of February, 2007, bearing Index Number 10000507, 2007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Blane Malin. My present name is Blane Malin. My present address is 223 East 27 Street, Brooklyn, New York 11226. My date of birth is June 17, 1963.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the First day of February, 2007, bearing Index Number 10000507, 2007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Blane Malin. My present name is Blane Malin. My present address is 223 East 27 Street, Brooklyn, New York 11226. My date of birth is June 17, 1963.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the First day of February, 2007, bearing Index Number 10000507, 2007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Blane Malin. My present name is Blane Malin. My present address is 223 East 27 Street, Brooklyn, New York 11226. My date of birth is June 17, 1963.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the First day of February, 2007, bearing Index Number 10000507, 2007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Blane Malin. My present name is Blane Malin. My present address is 223 East 27 Street, Brooklyn, New York 11226. My date of birth is June 17, 1963.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the First day of February, 2007, bearing Index Number 10000507, 2007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Blane Malin. My present name is Blane Malin. My present address is 223 East 27 Street, Brooklyn, New York 11226. My date of birth is June 17, 1963.

February Anniversary Special

HEIGHTS VISION CENTER

Come celebrate our 20th anniversary on Montague Street.

Free glaucoma screenings, visual acuity screenings and autorefractive screenings, Mondays thru Fridays during February.

Come see frame reps from Prada, Gucci and Coach with their 2007 product lines on Saturday February 10th and Saturday February 24th. (Call for details)

Time for new frames? Save up to 50% on designer frames including Calvin Klein, Michael Kors, and Armani.

• Eye Exams
• Designer Frames
• Contact Lenses
• Children's Frames
• Sunglasses
• Sports Glasses

132 Montague St. • Brooklyn Heights • (718) 852-1149
www.doctorstuartfriedman.com

FREE HOME MODIFICATIONS

Free home modifications available to frail seniors and individuals with disabilities living in Brooklyn Community Boards 2, 3, 4, 8 & 16.

To qualify, applicants must have household incomes of no more than \$19,146 annually.

Modifications will enable individuals to perform everyday tasks more independently and allow greater access to and within the home — e.g. installation of grab bars, walk-in shower, ramps, and widening doorways.

For an application call
SERVICES FOR THE UNDERSERVED
at 718.403.9846, ext. 248

Fort Greene's finest Day Care

...Where Life Long Learning Begins...
Serving ages 2-6 • 7:30am-6pm available

✓ Licensed by the Department of Health Bureau of Day Care
✓ New York State Certified teachers
✓ Arts & Crafts
✓ Computers in Classrooms
✓ CPR and First Aid Certified Staff
✓ Enrichment Programs
✓ Full/Half Day, Extended Day and As Needed Hours

✓ Fully Air Conditioned
✓ Indoor Gym
✓ Integrated Program
✓ Nutritional Breakfast/Lunch available, Free or at Reduced Rate
✓ Reading Readiness
✓ Safe and Nurturing environment
✓ Spacious Well-Equipped classrooms

DON'T DELAY. REGISTER TODAY. SEATS ARE LIMITED.
Contact: Janet Williams, Program Director
(718) 854-3710, childstudyctr@aol.com

167 Clermont Avenue
between Myrtle & Dekalb Aves.

"D'Amico: The Best Cup of Coffee in the City"
—Fox 5 Good Day New York



309 Court Street • damicofoods.com • (718) 875-5403

The David Berg Lecture Series Presents
FROM KESER TO MALCHUS:
UNCOVERING CHASSIDISM

A 10-Week series on Chassidism from the Beise to the Rebbe: Its History, Philosophy, and Impact on the 21st Century with Rabbi Aaron L. Rackin

All Classes are FREE and are held on Mondays, 8-9pm

Knowledge of Hebrew is not required

FER. 5: R. Yisroel, the "Baal Shem Tov" aka Baal (1688-1760), Founder of Chassidism.
FER. 12: R. Dovber, "Maggid of Mezritch" (c. 1770), founder of the Hasidic movement.
FER. 19: R. Shneur Zalman of Liadi, the "Vital Rebbe" (1754-1812), Founder of the Chabad-Lubavitch movement.
FER. 26: R. Dovber, the "Mittler Rebbe" (1773-1827), and Lubavitcher Rebbe.
MARCH 5: R. Menachem Mendel Schneerson, the "Seventh Rebbe" (1902-1981), 7th Lubavitcher Rebbe.
MARCH 12: Rabbi Shalom Schneerson, the "Ninth Rebbe" (1914-1984), 9th Lubavitcher Rebbe.
MARCH 19: Rabbi Shalom Schneerson, the "Ninth Rebbe" (1914-1984), 9th Lubavitcher Rebbe.
MARCH 26: Rabbi Yisroel Meir Sholom Schneerson, the "Tenth Rebbe" (1906-1981), 10th Lubavitcher Rebbe.
APRIL 2: Rabbi Shalom Schneerson (1906-1981), 10th and last Lubavitcher Rebbe.

Congregation B'nai Avraham
117 Remsen Street - Brooklyn, NY 11201
(718) 596-4840 Ext.18
www.bnaivraham.com • www.heightschabad.com

Sappho's Catty Shack pathos

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

Four men bashed in the back door of a popular Fourth Avenue lesbian bar before it opened on Feb. 11 and walked away with thousands in cash and equipment.

Surveillance cameras at the bar, Catty Shack, which is near Carroll Street, show the four men entering and later leaving with a safe, a \$2,000 flat-screen TV, a \$1,000 pro-grade CD player and other equipment. The biggest hit was the safe, which held \$5,000, the owner told cops.

There are no cameras inside the bar, so cops don't have many leads. Since the robbery,

POLICE BLOTTER

Lock and lost

It was a busy week at a Flatbush Avenue chain drugstore, with the shoplifting of nearly \$1,700 in allergy medicine and the theft of an employee's wallet five days later.

In the first crime, cops say a man entered the store at around 2 pm on Feb. 5 and stuffed a white shopping bag with 100 boxes of "non-drowsy Clar-

itin," worth close to \$1,700.

Police are now reviewing the videotape of the crime.

Five days later, an employee had her wallet stolen from the locker room. The 18-year-old victim told cops that she secured the wallet in her locker in the basement of the store, which is near Prospect Place.

She lost \$50 and the wallet.

Poor man

Three thugs nudged a man as he climbed the steps of his Montgomery Place home on Feb. 7, threatening that they'd burn him if he didn't hand over some cash.

The 37-year-old victim complied, giving \$60 to his assailants, who then fled into Prospect Park, one block away.

The man told cops that one of the thugs brandished a lighter as his weapon.

Unholy crime

Two women who work in a Seventh Avenue church had their wallets stolen on Feb. 6, losing cash, credit cards and jewelry, cops said.

Both women were at work in the church, which is between Sterling and St. Johns places, at 2:45 pm when one realized that her wallet, containing \$53, was missing. At that time, a co-worker noticed that she, too, had been robbed.

That's when both women remembered seeing a man walk-

ing in the basement hallway, though neither could give a good description to the police.

Identity theft

A woman had more than \$2,000 stolen from her bank account — and she told cops had no idea how it happened.

Cops said that the crime was a classic identity theft. The 29-year-old woman, who lives on 10th Street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues, never reported any missing credit cards or other personal information, yet thieves withdrew the money from a Manhattan bank branch on Jan. 20 and 21.

She reported the crime at the 78th Precinct on Feb. 5.

Tools shed

A construction business inside a Sixth Street building lost a few tools to burglars who broke in on Feb. 3, cops said.

The perp broke in on a Saturday at 3 pm, when the design firm, which is at Fifth Avenue, was closed, smashing through the basement door window and cutting two locks.

Teen targeted

A man pretending to be friendly robbed a 13-year-old boy on the corner of Atlantic and Third avenues, on Feb. 7, police said.

The stranger walked up behind the youngster around 8:40 am and placed one hand on his shoulder. "Do you have any money? Give me your money, or I'm going to have to stab you," the thief insisted.

Gay Pride group taken for \$5,120



The group that runs Brooklyn's gay pride parade (above) was robbed in an apparent inside job.

The Brooklyn Paper

A worker at a major lesbian-and-gay non-profit group stole more than \$5,000 and tried to steal much more in a plot that unraveled on Feb. 8, police said.

The employee had withdrawn \$5,120 from Brooklyn Pride, which is based at the Park Slope United Methodist Church on Sixth Avenue, and was trying to deposit a fraudulent \$13,000 check, when the bank called police.

The non-profit organization, which runs Brooklyn's annual "pride" parade, told police that the employee used the money to pay his own bills. Police said they know his identity and his address but have not ruled him in.

"We can't wait for him to be caught," said the group's executive director Fran Rolan. "He has jeopardized us to the full extent."

—Kuntzman

MISSION STATEMENT: WE ARE THE BEST PART OF YOUR DAY, EVERYDAY.

- "PRIVATE PILATES TRAINING on STOTT Reformer"
- ATTENTION PARENTS: Original Tae Kwon-do for children ages 5 and up.



PARK SLOPE
191 15TH ST. BROOKLYN
T: 718.965.6200
OPEN 24HRS

BAY RIDGE
9215 4TH AVE. BROOKLYN
T: 718.238.9400
OPEN 24HRS

www.harborfitness.com

Good at any location.

7 DAY try-all PASS

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Exp. Date: _____

Must be 18 years of age or older. Local residents with valid driver's license. Not valid if free trial has been used in past 12 months. For first time guest only.

verses & reverses

BY LEON FREILICH

Once again, we invited Leon Freilich, the poet laureate of Park Slope, to weigh in with some local verse. Here is this week's poetic offering, "The Hard Sell."

The Yuppies brag of the bucks
the makes,
the cash, and how he'd never
quit it.
He'd murder, maim, whatever it
takes.
But using Viagra? He'd never
admit it.

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 26th day of February, 2007, bearing Index Number N050057-2007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Chava Shalev. My present name is Chava Shalev Shalev aka Chava Shalev. My present address is 151 Garfield Place, Brooklyn, New York 11215. My place of birth is Brooklyn, New York. My date of birth is May 5, 1971.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 26th day of February, 2007, bearing Index Number N050057-2007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name Todd Antonio Somerville. My present name is Todd Antonio Somerville. My present address is 548 Tenth Street, Brooklyn, New York 11215. My place of birth is Dallas, Texas. My date of birth is October 10, 1974.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 26th day of February, 2007, bearing Index Number N050057-2007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Kyle Channing Room. My present name is Kyle Channing Room. My present address is 407 Third Street, Brooklyn, New York 11215. My place of birth is Hong Kong, China. My date of birth is May 28, 2002.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 26th day of February, 2007, bearing Index Number N050057-2007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Jonathan Peng. My present name is Jonathan Peng. My present address is 872 56th Street, 1st Floor, Brooklyn, New York 11220. My place of birth is Tan Giang Province in Vietnam. My date of birth is May 30, 2005.

Group: Not a homeless spot

By Christie Risk

The Brooklyn Paper

The non-profit group slated to run a single-room-occupancy building in the South Slope fought back this week against charges the building will bring dangerous people to the area.

The Fifth Avenue Committee, which runs supportive-and-affordable-housing programs, is going forward with a proposed plan to build such a facility at 575 Fifth Ave., on the corner of 16th Street, despite the grumbling of some neighbors that the group is trying to dump mentally ill, formerly homeless people on them.

Locals said they wanted larger units for struggling families rather than single men and women at the facility, which will replace a municipal parking lot.

But Fifth Avenue Committee Executive Director Michelle de la Uz reassured members of the South Park Slope Community Group at a meeting Tuesday.

"This is affordable housing with on-site social support," she said, adding that counselors make sure that mentally ill individuals stay on their medications.

"This is absolutely not a

drug-treatment program or homeless shelter," De la Uz added. "People cannot move into this housing unless they are stable and drug-free."

And in a savvy bit of PR, de la Uz pulled out the ultimate guilt trip, telling residents that the facility is designed to house people like Dominick Diomedee, the 94-year-old man whose eviction captured the hearts of the very people who oppose the Fifth Avenue Committee's plan now.

Diomedee now lives in a Committee-run supportive housing building at 551 Warren St. in Boerum Hill.

The 49 studio efficiency apartments will be rented to single men and women who make less than \$29,775 a year.

Sixty percent of the units will be set aside for formerly homeless and mentally ill people, while the other 40 percent will be rented by elderly people and young people aging out of foster care.

Most residents seemed reassured, but small doubts remained.

"We need to make sure whatever gets built is a project the community can accept," said John Barnes, a member of the community group.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

First A.M.E. Zion Church
54 MacDonough St.
(bet. Tompkins & Marcy Aves.)
Borough-Williamsburg, Brooklyn
Sunday School 9:45 am
Morning Worship 1:00 am
Wednesday Midweek
Service/Bible Study 8:30 pm
(718) 638-3343
Dr. Sharon H. Mitchell, Pastor (LMS 18)

Congregation Kol Israel
Located in Flatbush Heights since 1924
603 St. Johns Place
bet. Clarkson & Franklin
638-6583
Rabbi Eliezer Schwartz
Fri. at Sunset • Sat. 10:30am
1045712

Cong. B'nai Jacob
Park Slope Synagogue
401 9th St. bet 6th & 7th Ave.
718-832-1266
Services: 7:15 Min. Morning
Shabbat: Fri. Sundown. Sat. 9:30am
CLASSES, EVENTS, HOLIDAYS
www.congregbnaicoll.org (LMS 18)

Congregation Mount Sinai
250 Cadman Plaza W.
Crown Heights/Eggertson
A House for Prayer / A Home for People
718-875-9124
Friday Eve. Services 6:30am
Saturday Morning 10:00am
Rabbi Joseph Goldstein (LMS 18)

Shabbat Shalom!
B'nai Avraham
www.bnaivraham.com

Candle Lighting
Mishpata
Fri. February 16, before 5:15pm
Terumah
Fri. February 23, before 5:15pm

me the right to assume the name of Ali
Mohamed Saleh. My present name is Ali
Mohamed Saleh Abdulrab. My present address
is 6824 Vista Place, Brooklyn, New York 11220.
My place of birth is Yawa, Yemen. My date of
birth is November 20, 1989.

Gentile is the new critter ridder



By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

Happy Valentine's Day from Councilmember Vince Gentile! Now, go out and scare some raccoons.

Gentile, a Bay Ridge Democrat, remained at the forefront of the fight against Brooklyn's increasing raccoon presence by announcing on Wednesday that his office would begin distributing "Critter Ridder," a humane raccoon repellent, "to all residents who are experiencing unwanted visits from raccoons."

Wednesday was Valentine's Day, but Gentile has no love for the masked bandits.

"Raccoons have been a persistent problem in our neighborhoods," said Gentile, who paid for the Critter Ridder himself and will dole it out as long as his supply lasts.

He championed the spray, which is made by the Litz, Pennsylvania-based Havahart Company, as "a humane way to keep raccoons from inhabiting areas that would be dangerous to both the raccoons and humans."

As reported in The Brooklyn Paper, the garbage eaters have been popping up in a broad belt stretching from Cobble Hill to Prospect Park and down to Bay Ridge and Dyker Heights.

The cuddly, but hostile, critters are considered wildlife and cannot just be killed (like rats and mice) unless they are obviously rabid (in such cases, they'll be walking around like drunks, experts said).

Not that Gentile is calling for the death penalty.

"We really don't want to look like raccoon hunters," a Gentile aide said. "This is about what Havahart calls 'caring control.'"

Gentile is urging his constituents to use the Critter Ridder spray around garbage cans and birdfeeders. Call (718) 748-5200 to pick up your poison.



Councilman Vince Gentile (top right) is distributing a humane raccoon repellent to worried constituents to help them ward off raccoons like the one that scared Carroll Gardens resident Mary Tarsio (bottom right) in November



The Spitz list

Self-professed "steamroller" Gov. Spitzer got steamrolled last week by Assembly Democrats who chose one of their own to become state Controller — but the Governor went on the offensive by lambasting some of the lawmakers in their own districts.

He called one upstate Assemblyman "one of those unfortunate members who just raises his hand when he's told to do so" — so we wondered, would the new governor go after our hand-raising

Assemblymembers in Brooklyn?

We asked our lawmakers what they thought about the governor's slash-and-burn approach and why they either voted for the Assembly's choice: Tom DiNapoli, or Martha Stark, one of three candidates nominated by a specially empowered selection committee.

To a man (or woman), the cops defended their choices and complained that Spitzer wrongly tried to interfere with the legislature's constitutional authority to fill the comptroller vacancy.

— Gersh Kuntzman

Lawmaker	Who he/she voted for	Comment
Assemblyman Jim Brennan (D-Park Slope)	Tom DiNapoli	"I've known DiNapoli for 20 years. He is a talented veteran lawmaker and fully qualified to be comptroller. I voted my heart and my mind. No one pressured me to do anything. The primary function [of comptroller] is to be a watchdog over the executive branch. ... If the governor wants to attack me, he has a right to do it. It's a free country, I'm happy to defend my position. It's an honorable position. I believe he interfered with the process for his own political reasons. The governor needs to mature as a leader."
Assemblyman Alec Brook-Krasny (D-Dyker Heights)	Tom DiNapoli	"Our job was to elect a person who was independent of the executive branch. There is a reason why the Constitution was written the way it was written. The main auditor of state agencies needs to be independent. For 30 years, I lived in the former Soviet Union, where the main feature of the dictatorship was the superiority of the executive branch. That frightens me. I like the governor very much, but in this case, the executive branch was interfering with our constitutional obligation. If he comes into my district, I'll say the same thing."
Assemblyman William Colton (D-Bensonhurst)	Tom DiNapoli	"I have a constitutional responsibility to vote for the most-qualified candidate, and that was Tom DiNapoli. The comptroller must audit state agencies, which is why the state Constitution delegates the authority to the legislature to select a comptroller when there's a vacancy. If the governor [lambasts me in my district], I'll say I fulfilled my constitutional responsibility to pick the most-qualified candidate and an independent comptroller."
State Sen. Marty Connor (D-Brooklyn Heights)	Martha Stark	"I voted for Stark because she was well qualified and a Brooklyn resident and would be a great comptroller. If that's how the governor wants to operate, that's his choice."
Assemblywoman Janelle Hyer-Spencer (D-Bay Ridge)	Tom DiNapoli	"I sat through all of those hearings, as the voters expected me to do. I have to tell you, looking at every candidate, Tom DiNapoli was truly the best. I know we agreed to the [task force] process, but the governor has mischaracterized it. We agreed to a process to let him make suggestions, but by no stretch of the imagination did we ever agree to a process that would abrogate the Constitution. What's so offensive to me is that I got a letter from the governor telling me I would pay the price [if I picked DiNapoli]. ... The governor is wrong. We didn't rubberstamp [Speaker Sheldon] Silver's choice. I never expected this out of a governor who is a reformer. I thought he'd want us to make the best choice for the state of New York."
Assemblyman Hakeem Jeffries (D-Prospect Heights)	Tom DiNapoli	"Everyone needs to take a deep breath, pause and get back to the business of reforming New York State government and passing laws that benefit our constituents. The panel agreed to come up with five recommendations in exchange for the legislature abdicating its constitutional authority to select the comptroller. The panel then, deliberately it seems, came back with three, thereby breaching our agreement. That entitled the legislature to open up the process to find the most-qualified candidate. ... DiNapoli was the best candidate. ... We needed someone independent of the executive branch who could protect the taxpayers."
Assemblywoman Joan Millman (D-Cobble Hill)	Martha Stark	"I'm not happy with what the governor is doing. He may be unhappy with how the majority of Democrats voted, but they are fellow Democrats. He's just picking on Democrats in their home district and some of them worked hard for his election. He's squandering political capital. Martha has an outstanding record and has experience running a huge agency. This was not a vote for the governor or against the speaker, but merely for someone I think was highly qualified."
State Sen. Velmalette Montgomery (D-Park Slope)	Martha Stark	"This is really high-level, testosterone politics. I voted for Stark because she is extremely bright and highly qualified. And she is from Brooklyn and an African-American/Latina. Her election would have been tremendously important symbolically."
State Sen. Diane Savino (D-Bensonhurst)	Martha Stark	"The legislature should not have entered into a deal on how to do the selection process, but where I come from, once the deal was made, you live up to it. Martha Stark presented a level of experience that made her a better choice. The governor is a very passionate individual who believes, rightfully so, that he was elected with a mandate to shake up Albany. But he's not stupid. He knows he needs to get a budget passed, so he'll recognize that [he needs to calm down]."

February 17, 2007

THE BROOKLYN PAPER • WWW.BROOKLYNPAPER.COM • (718) 834-9350

ANP 5

HEALTH, MIND & BODY

DENTISTS

ROOT CANAL EXTRACTIONS PERIODONTAL WORK CROWNS BRIDGES PORCELAIN VENEERS BLEACHING DENTURES LAMINATES

GENERAL & COSMETIC DENTISTRY
Advanced sanitation and infection control

Jack Irwin, D.D.S.
414 Seventh Avenue
bet. 13th & 14th Sts.
www.jackirwindds.com
(718) 766-8372

Evening Hours Mon-Fri
Most Insurance & Union Plans
accepted on full or partial payment.

Medi-Cal, UFF, DCST, PMA, Delta, Blue Cross, Aetna, CHOA, United, Guardian, HealthNet, Allegis, BHS, First, United Community, American

COURTEOUS AND COMPREHENSIVE DENTAL CARE
Provided at our new spacious, modern and friendly office

Providing Excellence in All Phases of Dentistry

COSMETIC DENTISTRY: Porcelain Laminates, Tooth Color Fillings, Metal Free Crowns, Porcelain Inlays, Onlays, Tooth Whitening

IMPLANT DENTISTRY: Surgical Placement and Restoration

PERIODONTICS: Non-Surgical and Surgical Treatment of Gum Disease

ROOT CANAL THERAPY: Using State of the Art Rotary Instrumentation

COMPUTERIZED DENTAL X-RAYS

CROWNS, BRIDGES, PARTIAL & FULL DENTURES

Emergency Patients are seen on the same day!

EUGENE D. STANISLAUS, D.D.S.
LAMUEL A. STANISLAUS, D.D.S.
189 Montague Street, Suite 800B - 8th Floor
Brooklyn Heights • Telephone: (718) 857-6639

OFFICE HOURS BY APPOINTMENT

Affordable Family Dentistry in Modern Pleasant Surroundings
State of the Art Sterilization (autoclave)
Emergencies treated promptly

Special care for children & anxious patients
WE NOW ACCEPT OXFORD

- Tooth Bleaching (whitening)
- Cosmetic Dentistry, Porcelain Facings & Inlays, Bonding Crowns & Bridges (Capping)
- Painless, Non-Surgical Gum Treatment
- Root Canal & Extractions • Dentures • Cleanings
- Implant Dentistry • Fillings (tooth colored)
- Stereo headphones • Analgesia (Sweet air)

Dr. Jeffrey M. Kramer
544 Court Street, Carroll Gardens
624-5554 624-7055

Convenient Office Hours & Ample Parking
Medicaid and insurance plans accommodated

We've Moved!

PARK SLOPE FAMILY DENTISTRY
— 245 Fifth Avenue —
between Carroll & Garfield

- Emergency Service
- Pediatric Dentistry
- Root Canal Therapy
- Implant Restorations
- Laminates • Bleaching
- White Fillings • Bonding
- Fluoride • Sealants
- Cleanings • Crowns
- Bridges • Dentures
- Non-Surgical Gum Care

Financing Available
Insurance Plans Welcomed

Dr. Andrew Warshaw
Dr. Sari Rosenwein
Dr. Doug Pollack

Hours by Appointment
Sat. & Eve. Available

Free Consultation
24 Hr. Phone Service

789-5700

Quality Dentistry
Gentle care in our ultra-modern office

- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Reconstructive Dentistry
- Gums & Implants
- Bleaching
- Nitrous Oxide (Sweet Air)
- Cosmetic Laminates & Bonding
- Advanced Sterilization
- Behavior Modification
- Sealants
- Fluoride
- Preventative Dentistry

RONALD I. TEICHMAN, DDS

Saturday & Evening Hours
357 Seventh Avenue at 10th Street
768-1111

MasterCard American Express Discover

BRITE SMILE Now in Park Slope!

FINEST DENTAL CARE
Superior Services for Adults & Children
New! Periodontist (gum specialist) on premises.

10 Plaza St. East, Suite 1F
(bet. Flatbush & Vanderbilt Aves.)

Evening appointments available. Most Insurance accepted.

(718) 622-8020

DENTISTS

General and Implant Dentistry

Jeff C. Strachan, DDS
189 Montague St., Suite #800A
Brooklyn Heights

(718) 783-0504
Office
(917) 753-3314
Emergency

www.strachandds.com
Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri 9am to 6pm
Saturday By Appointment only

- Bleaching/ZOOM 2
- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Crowns & Bridges
- Endodontics & Root Canals
- Periodontics • Oral Surgery
- Treatment of Gum Disease
- Fixed & Removable Bridges
- Emergencies Seen SAME DAY

DERMATOLOGY

LASERS FOR THE REMOVAL OF...
Hair, Broken Blood Vessels, Winkles, Spider Veins (face & legs), Age Spots, Acne Scars, Stretchmarks

BOTOX & RESTYLANE - FOR WRINKLES

LIPOSUCTION
Totally under local anesthesia. Abdomen, lovehandles, thighs, hips, male breasts.

Acne • Spider Vein Treatment
Chemical Peels • Botox • Collagens
Genital Warts • Herpes • Moles

FREE LIPOSUCTION CONSULTATION

Day & Evening Appointments • Affordable Fees
Many Insurances and Credit Cards Accepted

ALAN R. KLING, M.D.
BOARD CERTIFIED DERMATOLOGIST
Conditions Related To Hair, Skin & Nails

27 8th Avenue (corner Lincoln Place)
Park Slope, Brooklyn
(718) 636-0425

1000 Park Avenue
New York City, NY
(212) 288-1300

FAMILY MEDICINE

TRAVEL IMMUNIZATIONS

Start the process months before leaving to get your shots

- Yellow fever
- Typhoid
- Hepatitis
- Malaria prevention

Plus MEDICAL ADVICE FOR TRAVELLERS

— BROOKLYN HEIGHTS FAMILY PRACTICE —
185 Montague Street, 3rd Floor
Hours: Mon-Sat • (718) 624-6185

PSYCHOTHERAPY

CHANGE YOUR LIFE. CHANGE YOUR WORLD. FEEL BETTER.
"Dr. Rafael helped me get out of my head and into my life. He has helped me challenge the dominant culture and create the life I want." — Gary A. Clark

Dr. Rafael Mendez, Ph.D., is a long time community activist and Social Psychologist, who has worked for over 30 years in the diverse communities of New York City. He works with people from all walks of life on issues of diversity, interracial relationships, anger, depression, career issues and more.

Individuals / Couples / Group Therapy

Dr. Rafael Mendez, Ph.D.
104-100 2nd Oxford Street, Fort Greene, Brooklyn
www.socialpsychiatrygroup.com

CALL FOR A FREE CONSULTATION: 718-797-3220

SKIN CARE

It's Our ANNIVERSARY!

erase

Safety • Results • Value
LASER MEDICAL PROCEDURES • ALIEN TECHNIQUE

Titan • Laser Collagen Acceleration
Laser Botox
Laser Wrinkle Reduction
Laser Skin Resurfacing
Laser Skin Scar Reduction
Vascular
BOTOX® & Restylane®
Acne Light Treatment (BLU-U)
Microdermabrasion
Chemical Peels
Resurfacing Treatments
Medical Grade Skin Care Products

OUR GIFT TO YOU! 50% off of your first treatment and 25% off of any remaining session with purchase of a complete laser package. *See us for details.

FREE CONSULTATION & SKIN ANALYSIS • GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

DERMACARE
Brooklyn Heights
222 South 1st Street, 10th Floor
888.739.2725

See our procedures on video at www.Dermacare.com

To advertise call (718) 834-9350

OUR OPINION

Why say no to Wal-Mart?

Author leaders and their elected enablers cheered last week after a developer told them that Wal-Mart would not be a part of the builder's new tower along the Fulton Mall in Downtown Brooklyn. But their celebration was misplaced. There is, in fact, no better place for Wal-Mart's first New York City location than the Fulton Mall.

No, we are not naive to the concerns of union members. Wal-Mart does indeed have a spotty record regarding worker compensation and benefits, not to mention a shady environmental past and an instinct towards censoring books or CDs that its Arkansas-based executives find distasteful.

But that's why Brooklyn is perfect for Wal-Mart. By encouraging Wal-Mart to open an urban store, Brooklyn consumers — who would quickly make this Wal-Mart the chain's biggest-grossing store — would bend the chain towards our values, not the other way around.

For starters, the borough's low unemployment rate would force Wal-Mart to pay reasonable wages. This is not Brooklyn, Iowa, after all. In our hometown, Wal-Mart would not find qualified staff willing to work for sub-par wages and sub-par benefits. The behemoth of

Benaville would simply have to do better.

No less important is that the Fulton Mall site is actually an ideal place for a big-box store. As a Chamber of Commerce report showed last year, Brooklynsites are underserved by department stores (the crowds at Target at Atlantic Terminal Mall certainly show that). And with millions of square feet of office space — and housing — under construction throughout Downtown, the time has come for more retail.

The Chamber report, after all, showed that Brooklyn workers would prefer to shop near their offices rather than being forced to waste valuable time schlepping into Manhattan for bargains.

It is inevitable that Wal-Mart will open in New York City — but on the Fulton Mall, such a store would not be an island in the middle of a vast parking lot that disconnects it from the neighborhood and, indeed, the very shoppers it needs to attract.

Brooklyn does not need another isolated mall like Caesar's Bay or Gateway at Spring Creek. Fulton Mall is well served by public transit and is surrounded by booming residential neighborhoods with hun-

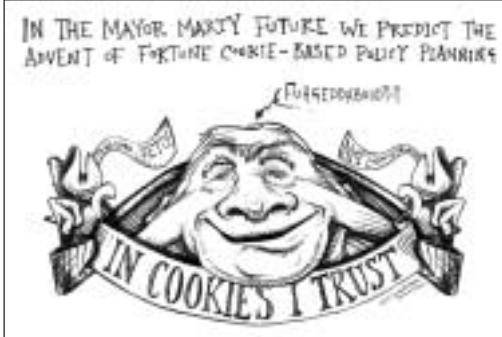
dreds of thousands of potential shoppers.

Critics say that Wal-Mart kills Mom and Pop stores. That may be true in Middle America, but the hordes of shoppers coming to a Fulton Mall location would actually enhance the profitability of many nearby businesses — again, unlike at Caesar's Bay or Gateway, both of which create that great "sucking sound" that Ross Perot used to talk about.

Yes, we are concerned about the company's record on free-speech issues. Most New Yorkers are unaware that Wal-Mart is one of America's biggest sellers of books and CDs, and when the chain's schemers are offended by a rap book or a gritty nap album, elements of our shared culture are pulled from Wal-Mart shelves. But Brooklyn customers would never stand for an exclusive diet of Rush Limbaugh, Ann Coulter and born-again inspirational tomes, or for not being able to pick up Nirvana, Goldsmith and Sheryl Crow albums.

Like any good business, even Wal-Mart believes that the customer is always right. If Wal-Mart does come to Brooklyn, the borough and the behemoth will both be changed for the better.

ALL DRAWN OUT



Cartoon: P. Herring

LETTERS

Linking Ratnerville and Miss Oklahoma win

Delivery Opt out

Every week, we deliver copies of The Brooklyn Paper to homes throughout Brownstone Brooklyn. Our unique system limits deliveries to just a few papers per building (eliminating the kind of clutter caused by circular and menu delivery services).

We hope everyone appreciates our free home delivery, but realize there are exceptions to every rule.

So, if you've received The Paper at home and no longer want this free service, you may "opt out" of our delivery program by filling out the online form at BrooklynPaper.com/html/about/optout.html

Send a letter

By mail: Letters Editor, The Brooklyn Paper, 55 Washington St., Brooklyn, NY 11201.

By fax: (718) 834-9278.

By e-mail: Letters@BrooklynPaper.com
All letters must be signed and include the writer's home address and phone number (only the writer's name and neighborhood are published with the letter). Letters may be edited and will not be returned. The earlier in the week you send your letter, the better.

To the editor,

Thanks for the pictures of New York beauties Bethlene Pancoast and Bess Myerson, the only Jewish Miss America, crowned in 1945 ("Snatched" Miss New York loses again," Feb. 3). The local pride in your article was a welcome break from yet more news that our politicians are giving Bruce Ratner yet more money for the "favor" of turning us into Anypolce, USA.

Like the southern contestant who beat Miss New York, Brooklyn may soon have its own false smile, false facade and one-size-fits-all "glamour."

How can we expect the rest of the country to appreciate our brand of individual and neighborhood beauty unless we are willing to fight to save it? **Jeana Kaye, Prospect Heights**

The writer is a volunteer with Develop Don't Destroy Brooklyn.

Fooled ya!

To the editor,

You have got to be kidding me! I looked at the pictures on your Web site and if this thing was judged on beauty, I can't believe your position! I don't know what you see, so I hope this was not a serious article. Either way, it represents a typical New York attitude. You feel like you are owed something. But why waste the time writing about it? Then again, I guess I did read it. Oh, well.

John Piotrowski, Oklahoma

Photo evidence

To the editor,

The photographs shown of the two Miss America contestants in question were enough evidence to see why New York lost: she's just not that attractive. I am sure she is talented, but you don't win beauty pageants on talent.

Jeffrey A. Phipps, Charleston, S.C.

To the editor,

She didn't win because she has a horse face. Send someone hot next time.

John Hassel, Duarte, California

Wish they could be...

To the editor,

When will New York ever get the recognition it truly deserves? America's "most illustrious pageant" (a ceremony for crowning a queen of the asinine) surely must have a bias against the Northeast.

Being the nation's largest city does not entitle you to anything, least of all a beauty contest. I realize the value of tailoring your reporting to local tastes, but I have had enough of the East Coast inferiority complex.

Grow up! Go outside! It may be cold, but you live in an entire city of Miss Americas. This is a luxury we are not all afforded. Go hang out on Atlantic Avenue or in Williamsburg. You'll find what you're looking for.

Rory Gillick, Madison, Wisconsin

Numbers don't lie

To the editor,

You are out of line whining about your state not winning Miss America yet again. You printed out that New York had won Miss America three times since 1921. But at that rate, New York has won the pageant at a rate above what the national average should be.

Yes, I realize that my state has won it six times and for you New Yorkers that's hard to bear because we are hilariously, redneck Oklahomans. But there's a simple truth: Our girls are prettier, smarter and obviously better than New York girls. Playboy even ranked Oklahoma State University number 3 on the "Hotest" college girls list.

So there's your proof that you should stop your whining and write about something worthwhile, maybe, for instance, world peace?

Keith Mackey, town withheld

Myrtle memories

To the editor,

Dana Rubinstein's recent column about Myrtle Avenue brought back some memories ("Cheesy future for Myrtle Avenue," Feb. 3). Many years ago, I was at the Navy Yard. During those three years, the area now known as "Wallabout" I felt like my own neighborhood.

On Myrtle Avenue, my favorite deli-

catesse. Walt and Vanny were always there, and they made the best hero sandwiches in the world.

There was a really fine Italian restaurant to the east of the deli, and an old movie theater that showed old movies for almost nothing. It was a great place.

I was also in the Clinton Hill Symphony, and we rehearsed in a church not too far from the Navy Yard. I also played with several different area symphony orchestras and opera companies. I still remember being stopped on Flushing Avenue one morning by an older man who asked me if I was interested in playing with an orchestra. I was ready to brush him off, but he knew the man who had served before me in the band and had played with this orchestra he was telling me about.

I agreed to go try it out and it turned out to be the Young Men's Hebrew Association orchestra. I'll never forget the night of my first rehearsal. Almost 100 players there.

The concertmistress was a 75-year-old grandmother. And play? It was the first time I had ever heard Beethoven's Seventh Symphony. The orchestra played it with this tremendous outpouring of feeling and passion, and played it very well.

I liked the people in Brooklyn. One night, on my way to rehearsal, I was walking down the sidewalk with my French horn, and this man said, "Can you really play that thing?" When I said could, he replied "Well, good luck with it." A real warmth in his

tone. He meant it.

Myrtle Avenue was never the safest place I have ever been, but there were some really nice people there. I wish them well.

Roy Gibson, address withheld

iPod pal

To the editor,

In response to your recent column about "iPod Oblivion" (The Brooklyn Angle, Feb. 10), I find it alarming that you would waste your paper's space with such nonsense.

But what is even more nonsensical is that state Sen. Carl Kruger would think it wise to spend tax dollars on a measure banning the use of any electronic device while crossing the street. All this will achieve nothing more than another step in the dumbing down of America.

If people want to talk on their phones as they cross the street that's their prerogative. Like mother said, look both ways before you cross, otherwise learn the hard way. Same goes for the banning of trans fats. People should be able to walk however they like, talk however they like, and eat however they like. It should not be up to the government (especially considering the people who are running it) to make those decisions for us.

We elect people to office to run the government, not our lives. All these tax dollars being wasted on complete crap!

Joe Weiner, Clinton Hill

Live the Loft Life

HISTORIC LIVING WITH A MODERN TOUCH



Newly Renovated Two and Three Bedroom Residences from \$495,000

THESE LOFT-LIKE RESIDENCES FEATURE:

- High volume ceilings and oversized windows
- Gourmet kitchens featuring granite countertops, KitchenAid and Bosch appliances
- Classic baths of Carrera marble
- Solid hardwood floors throughout

THIS LOFT-LIKE LIFESTYLE INCLUDES:

- Fully equipped fitness center
- Private landscaped garden courtyard
- On-site parking for many homes
- Bicycle room

501 ADAMS STREET
HOBOKEN, NJ 07030
201.795.0055
www.AdamsSquare.com

MARKETING AND EXCLUSIVE SALES AGENT:
THE MARKETING DIRECTORS, INC.
AN R SQUARED RESIDENTIAL CONDOMINIUM

This is not an offering. The full terms of the offer are available in a public offering statement available from the Sponsor. This does not constitute an offering to the residents of New York or any other state where prohibited by law. Prices subject to change without notice.



2007 Water Quality Summit

Gowanus Canal Water Quality Summit is intended to inspire dialogue among participants concerning a variety of issues related to the canal's water quality. The summit will consist of a series of four evening workshops followed by discussion.

Session 1: Introduction to Gowanus Canal Water Quality
Wednesday, February 21

Historical and Future Services Provided by the Gowanus Canal to the People of Brooklyn

This session will trace the history of the canal, with a focus on the services it has provided or could provide to those living on and around it. Beginning with the Pre-industrial era, the discussion will cover the ecosystem services provided by the Gowanus marshes to pre-colonial and colonial populations of Brooklyn and will conclude with some ideas on what the waterway can be in the Post-industrial era modern Brooklyn.

Water Quality and Use of the Canal

This session will focus on the topic of water quality, beginning with how water quality in the canal likely changed through time as a function of the land use and economic

activity in the surrounding watershed. The discussion will begin with a description of water quality in the "pristine era" and will conclude with a discussion of how water quality is measured, modeled and data is interpreted.

Current Water Quality Conditions in the Gowanus Canal

This session will provide an overview of the current water quality of the Gowanus Canal, with comparisons to other water bodies in New York City and the New York harbor. The session will present the results of the most recent water quality monitoring and modeling in the canal, and will outline potential causes and effects, in order to inform future remediation efforts.

Time: 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Location: Polytechnic University; Dibner Library, Room LC 400; 333 Jay Street, Brooklyn

Session 2: Causes & Potential Solutions to Water Quality Problems

Tuesday, March 6

Session 3: A Green District in Gowanus?

Thursday, March 29

Session 4: Green Gowanus Charette

Tuesday, April 10

Gowanus Canal Conservancy 509 Court Street Brooklyn, New York 11231-3927 718.858.0557 tel



(718) 834-9350

The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

February 17, 2007



VietNam marches home from its U.S. tour with a new record

By Joe Pompeo
for The Brooklyn Paper

It's 3 p.m. and Josh Grubb, guitarist for VietNam, has just woken up. His band is heading to play a show in New Orleans roughly two weeks into the second leg of its American winter tour, and it's time for one of the band's favorite tour rituals: a pit stop at the Cracker Barrel.

"We like to have a good sit-down dinner at the Cracker Barrel every few days," he told GO Brooklyn, his voice somewhat muffled by a bad cellular connection. "I seriously love the Cracker Barrel!"

Aside from enjoying frequent meals at one of the country's finer roadside eateries, the increasingly hype-worthy, long-haired Brooklyn blues rockers (or is it boogie rockers?) have had more than a few interesting moments while on the road this year.

An "18-year-old f---up kind of mall rat chick" tried to hassle them out of merch money, a burly bouncer threatened to kick their tour manager's ass, an uptight hotel owner nearly called the cops because he was convinced they were going to throw a party in one of the rooms (they didn't —

MUSIC

VietNam is playing with the Lemonheads on Feb. 23 at 8 p.m. at Southpaw (125 Fifth Ave. at St. Johns Place in Park Slope). Tickets are \$20. For information call (718) 230-0236 or visit www.southpaw.com.

this time) and, not least of all, they opened each night for one of the most influential indie rock bands of the 1990s — the Lemonheads.

"We met Evan [Dando] this past summer through a mutual friend and hung out with him a few times," Grubb explained of how the band's 10-week stint supporting the formerly famous frontman came about. "He was really into VietNam and asked if we wanted to come out on tour. It worked out great for us."

Of course with Lemonheads shows come older crowds, the "secretary set" as Grubb refers to them, which are a far cry from the scruffy Williamsburg hipsters for whom VietNam is used to playing at home.

Based on the band members' appearances, it would be easy to mistake VietNam

American band: The boys of VietNam, (above, from left) Berko, Foss, Grubb, unidentified pal and Gerner, return to Brooklyn on Feb. 23 to play at Southpaw with college radio alumni The Lemonheads.

— Grubb, singer and guitarist Michael Gerner, drummer Mike Foss and bassist Ivan Berko — for hippies rather than kids who grew up on punk. That's ironic, considering they came about during the heyday of Brooklyn's post-punk and electroclash craze and were inevitably thrown onto bills that weren't quite appropriate for the band's "stripped down, electric city blues," as Grubb calls it.

The band has since amassed a devoted following of friends and fans, packing shows that make them feel comfortable rather than out of place, and playing alongside marquee acts like the Brian Jonestown Massacre and Fiery Furnaces, as well as local favorites like Psychic Ills and Blood on the Wall.

Yet VietNam has a fairly accessible, classic rock 'n' roll sound. "Our music's pretty straight ahead," said Grubb. "It's not so weird that most people can't understand it, like Gang Gang Dance or something. So far people have been really into it."

Over the years, VietNam's gone through plenty of lineup changes and called numerous cities home before settling down in Williamsburg in 2002, when Vice Records gave them a deal for the EP that would be their first. The relationship with Vice soon went sour, and VietNam forged ahead on its own, recording a pricey album in 2005 with the financial support of Maroon 5 bass player Mickey Madden.

No labels seemed interested in the album until more than six months later when Manhattan-based label Kemado Records picked it up. The self-titled record finally hit shelves last month, drawing comparisons from Bob Dylan to Lou Reed to Spiritualized. Surprisingly, though, its release was somewhat anti-climactic for the band.

"The day the record came out was weird," said Grubb. "It'd been so long in the making, I didn't even have a real reaction. I'd have thought we'd be popping bottles of champagne or something, but it wasn't as epic as I'd expected. We were definitely all excited, but everything leading up to it coming out was so much that we were all just sort of relieved more than anything."

Next up for VietNam are three limited 12-inch EPs on Brooklyn label the Social Registry, which are slated for a Mar. 6 release.

At the moment, all four members still share a storefront apartment in Williamsburg. Grubb said they love living in New York because there are so many places to play and so many bands to play with, but they eventually might want to give some other cities a chance: "There are a lot of places we'd still like to try out because you get a different vibe anywhere you go. Who knows, maybe next we'll end up in Little Rock."

Devil's haircuts

Luscious rock locks were around way before VietNam. Take a look at some of the best and brightest manes in rock and roll history.



Neil Young



Frank Zappa



Peter Dinklage



Slash



Lita Ford

NIGHTLIFE

Fat Two's Day

Finally, New Orleans and Park Slope are together again.

Last united during the outpouring of post-Katrina support, the two centers of the world will come together again with two Mardi Gras parties on Feb. 20, both featuring live music from the Big Easy.

An all-night party will rock the Lighthouse Tavern, with the night's proceeds going to the New Orleans Musicians Hurricane Relief Fund.

"We're donating a dollar from every Abita beer and Hurricane," said co-owner Tommi Rubens-Quiros. "If we make our goal, we'll donate \$150 in each band's name."

The "Fat Tuesday" celebration is also the kickoff of "What's Your Art Tuesdays," a night that lets patrons run the show and is open to everything from drum circles to discussion groups.

Another Park Slope party will be at Two Boots Brooklyn (pictured). The Cajun-Italian eatery will offer special drinks and a New Orleans spread (in years past, alligator and frog legs have been served). "We try to make it as New Orleans as possible," bartender Tara Marli told GO Brooklyn. "The staff comes decked out in costumes and we give away beads and all sorts of fun things."

"Mardi Gras 2007" at The Lighthouse Tavern (243 Fifth Ave., between Carroll and Garfield streets), Feb. 20, 5 p.m. to midnight. (718) 788-8070. "The Big Mardi Gras Bash" at Two Boots Brooklyn (514 Second St. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope), Feb. 20, 4 p.m. (718) 499-3253. — Rob M. Errera

NIGHTLIFE



Lounge lizard

Another long-time Manhattanite has made the jump: Luna Lounge has opened in Williamsburg.

A mainstay on the Lower East Side since 1995, Luna Lounge was forced to find new digs after owner Rob Sacher found out his club was being demolished to make way for luxury apartments. He decided to follow his friends and musicians to Bklynburg.

"The area evolved from a place where young musicians could afford to live to a place where young bankers could afford to live," said Sacher, who lived on the Lower East Side for 18 years.

The club was a hot spot for then up-and-comers such as Elliott Smith and Interpol, but also attracted big names like Sonic Youth's Thurston Moore. The location on Metropolitan Avenue is three times as big and, more importantly, has a very understanding landlord — a great combination for cultivating the next generation in rock royalty.

"I had a line drawing in my head of what I wanted the venue to look like... and when I found the new Luna, I thought, 'This is exactly what I want.'"

Luna Lounge (361 Metropolitan Ave. at Havemeyer Street in Williamsburg) is open nightly. Admission varies, but after the bands play, you can always get in for free. For more info, visit www.lunalounge.com. — Sarah McCormick

THEATER

On course

"True West" has come due east.

Landing a few miles off Broadway, the Sam Shepard-penned play, an ode to brotherhood, Hollywood and stolen toasters, is being performed by local thespians of the Sackett Group.

Suspend your disbelief as this cold Brooklyn winter finds the show's two characters, adult brothers Austin and Lee, in a Southern California kitchen. Austin, a screenwriter, and Lee, a drifter and appliance thief, clash and then seem to swap lives after questioning the paths (and appliances) they've taken.

The story is about family and everybody has some connection to that," said Robert Weinstein, the Carroll Gardens resident who directed the show and is also the troupe's artistic director. "It is a true study in human nature and because of the quality of the writing... the power within the story paints a picture of the way we truly are."

Now that enough time has passed since the real-life family drama of the holidays, "True West" is a good direction in which to head.

"True West" will run at the Brooklyn Music School Playhouse (126 St. Felix St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene) until Feb. 25. Tickets are \$20. For information call (212) 352-3101 or visit www.sackettgroup.com. — Karen Butler

DON'T MISS THE BEST PARTY IN NYC!
Mardi Gras Celebration
Feb 20th, 5pm - midnight

- Live N.O. Jazz
- Food & Spirits
- Darrell Walker
- Disorient Express
- Donations to New Orleans Musicians Hurricane Relief Fund

NCAA PACKAGES
Lighthouse Tavern Bar & Grill
243 5th Avenue, between Carroll & Garfield
718-788-8070 • R train to Union • www.lighthouse tavern.net

APARTMENT 138
GRUB + SPIRITS + GAMES
DINNER SUNDAY - THURSDAY 5PM TILL 1AM
FRIDAY - SATURDAY TILL 2AM
\$10 BRUNCH SATURDAY & SUNDAY
138 SMITH ST, BROOKLYN, 11201
703-658-0556

CEBU
SUPPER 5PM - 3AM
COCKTAILS 12PM - 4AM
BRUNCH SATURDAY & SUNDAY
8801 3RD AVENUE
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK
718-492-5095

NORTH OF NEW ORLEANS
NoNo Kitchen
Louisiana Southern American Cuisine

★ COME JOIN US FOR MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION ★
Tuesday, February 20th: Live Music and Buffet
Renowned New Orleans photographer Zack Smith will be selling his work

★ Sunday Jazz Brunch ★
CATERING AVAILABLE
293 7th Ave. (7th Sts.)
Reservations (718) 369-8348
Train to 7th Avenue

BROOKLYN

Neighborhood Dining Guide

This week: DOWNTOWN BROOKLYN

Cafe Metro

15 Metrotech Center (718) 237-4800
www.cafemetro.com (AmEx, Disc, MC, Visa)
Entrees: \$5.29-\$7.99

One of eleven locations throughout New York City, this beautifully appointed Art Deco cafe is dominated by a sumptuous display case piled with colorful and tasty-looking sandwiches, pastries and salads. Early birds may pick up a veggie sandwich and a fresh fruit smoothie, or for the decadent, a cappuccino to wash down a chocolate croissant. For lunch, you can create your own salad, choose from among eight soups like Tuscan vegetable or salmon potato chowder, or try one of their "hot pressin' melts," such as Cajun chicken with pepper jack cheese, roasted peppers and chiptole spread. There are quesadillas, burgers, wraps, and hot entrees including BBQ pork chops and Thai curry chicken. If there's room for dessert, a key lime bar or peanut butter brownie is almost irresistible. The staff is friendly and polite, and Cafe Metro offers free delivery with no minimum charge. Winter hours are 6 am to 6 pm Monday through Friday for breakfast, lunch and dinner, and 6 am to 2 pm Saturday.

Celeste Diner

63 Tillary St. at Adams Street (718) 596-5178
www.celestediner.com (AmEx, MC, Visa)
Entrees: \$5.95-\$17.95

Unless you're among the cyclists and pedestrians who use the Brooklyn Bridge walkway, it would be easy to overlook the Celeste Diner on the Northeast corner of Tillary next to the bridge onramp. With its large windows and wraparound, soda-fountain style counter, Celeste is an inviting place for thirty joggers to pause and refresh. Open for breakfast from 6 am to 8 pm, Celeste has 21 different omelets, and also serves lox and turkey sausage. For lunch, there's a dizzying array of sandwiches, including 18 varieties, 18 burgers, hot open face sandwiches, Greek specialties and burgers. There are dinner offerings from the fillet of sole Parmigiana to the Roman-style steak or the spinach pie. Open daily until 8 pm.

Coal Pot Cuisine

381 Bridge St. at Willoughby Street (718) 522-3600 (Cash Only) Entrees: \$5.15-\$11

If you can't visit Jamaica this year, here's a quick fix. Half a block away from busy Fulton Mall and a few steps up, Coal Pot Cuisine is a small oasis where the savory fragrance of the jerk chicken and escarich fish tells its own story. You can choose your meal from a cafeteria-style counter where whole snappers swim in a brown sauce thick with vegetables, then sit in the sun-drenched dining area overlooking the street, decorated with murals that summon up a serene blue Caribbean horizon. GO Brooklyn's Rebecca Magid says Coal Pot's oxtails with black beans and rice "melt in your mouth." Other specialties of the house include tripe and beans, and cow foot soup: a spicy, thyme-scented broth loaded with potatoes, dumplings and yams. Coal Pot caters, and also delivers for free. Open Monday through Saturday from 8 am to 8 pm for breakfast, lunch and dinner, closed Sundays.

Eamon's

174 Montague St. at Clinton Street (718) 966-4999 www.eamons.net (AmEx, DC, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$12.95-\$20.50

Eamon's simply has it all: a decor that is timeless and comfortable, an enclosed sidewalk cafe, an active and friendly bar, an upstairs dining room that can accommodate private parties up to 75, and something on the menu for everyone. You'll find a large selection of salads, sandwiches, hearty entrees and Eamon's traditional fare like Irish sausage and mashed potatoes with onion gravy or chicken potpie. There is also a private-dinner selection for \$20.95, which includes soup or salad, select entrees, dessert and coffee. Weekend brunch at Eamon's runs 11 am to 4 pm. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

Guyanes and Trinidad Roti Shop/Justin's Island Cuisine Restaurant

144 Lawrence St. at Fulton Street (718) 625-9190 (Cash only) Entrees: \$6.50-\$10

Find more restaurants at
www.brooklynpaper.com
Abbreviation Key: AmEx=American Express, DC=Diner's Club, Disc=Discover Card, MC=MasterCard, Visa=Visa Card



Vincent Vitello, owner of Queen on Court Street.

At first glance, this unassuming-looking food shop near the Fulton Mall appears to be just-operated, with a banner slung over the original marquis and a baker in front keeping up a steady harangue while handing out menus. "Jalepan, escovitch, jerk chicken!" Don't be fooled, because it's one of the foremost eateries in the area, according to owner Sandy Boodman, who took over the restaurant three years ago. Justin's may not have an upscale atmosphere, but it has been around for 15 years and was "originally the only place in downtown Brooklyn" to get authentic Caribbean cooking, says Boodman. She also has "bake and slush" on the menu. Entree choices include unusual dishes such as curry duck and pumpkin oti. For dessert, try one of the authentic Guyanese and Trinidadian pastries, and wash it all down with cane juice or peanut punch. Open Monday through Saturday from 7 am to 8 pm for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Closed Sundays.

Luciano's

15 Metrotech Center (718) 855-6668 (AmEx, DC, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$5.95-\$19.95

Luciano's is a cavernous modern restaurant with a tiled floor on the northeast side of Metrotech Center. Near the door is a designer bar built of warm wood and steel surrounded by high tables with stools. The seating area beyond is set up like a food court for the suit set; at breakfast time, there's a create-your-own-omelet counter and a gourmet coffee bar. At lunch, out come the custom-crafted Panini, the salads, and a pizza counter and a create-your-own-pasta bar. But wait—there's also a dining area around the other side of the bar, where servers will hand you a dinner menu featuring antipasto, veal piccata, shrimp scampi and New York strip steak. Luciano's serves breakfast, lunch and dinner five days a week until 8 or 9, while the bar stays open until 11 or 12 pm—owner's prerogative. Closed Saturday and Sunday.

Queen

84 Court St. at Livingston Street (718) 596-8955, www.queenrestaurant.com (AmEx, DC, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$14.50-\$31

Now in its 49th year, Queen was recently rated the city's best Italian restaurant by voters in the 2006 AOL CityGuide, beating out famed eateries like Babbo and Bambera's, and was nominated for 2007. Just a hop from Borough Hall, Queen has a three-course, \$23.99 prix-fixe lunch menu for the business crowd, offered until 6 pm everyday. Brothers Pasquino and Vincent Vitello, who took over operations from their father, Anthony, make mozzarella two or three times a day, says Vincent, and serve a special appetizer combining the cheese with regularly changed garnishes, like grilled asparagus, eggplant fritters or another specialty. Dinner features sumptuous fare like home-made specialty ravioli that change weekly and seasonal dishes like pork scaloppini with fresh fish beans and prosciutto or venison duck. For a unique dessert, Vincent suggests the house-made chocolate ravioli, tiny ravioli made of cocoa-infused pasta filled with sweetened ricotta, and served with a creamy vanilla custard sauce. Delivery available. Open for lunch during the week and dinner daily.

China Ocean

82 Livingston St. at Court Street (718) 260-8870 (AmEx, DC, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$5-\$23
If it's Chinese food your taste buds crave, grab a quick spring roll or sit down for a salad, or sushi from the newly opened China Ocean. Step out on your lunch break to try the \$6 lunch special, which features an entree, like a hot plate of beef with broccoli or General Tso's chicken, your choice of white or fried rice, and a canned drink. Open daily from 11 am to 10 pm. Free delivery available.

Editor's note: These are a sampling of restaurants in the neighborhood. The list rotates, and it is not comprehensive. For more restaurants, go to www.brooklynpaper.com on the Web. If your restaurant is not listed and you would like to be, please contact GO Brooklyn Editor Lisa Curtis via email at Curtis@brooklynpaper.com.

Tolerable taco

Tina endures the mediocre new Cafe Enduro

By Tina Barry
for The Brooklyn Paper

Should you hightail it and run when you overhear a diner ask a waitress, "What is gwa-sah-mole?" Perhaps.

She meant guacamole, and what the server at Cafe Enduro, a new, warmly welcomed Mexican-inspired eatery in the underserved Prospect Lefferts Gardens neighborhood, should have said is, "That's not exactly what we're serving here."

The restaurant, which opened in early December, is co-owned by Jim Mamary, who also owns Pacifico and other popular spots in Boerum Hill and Carroll Gardens. He's crafted a convivial place that is big on atmosphere with a lively bar scene. Food plays a secondary role.

Pacifico's ambience is Southwestern; Cafe Enduro is a low-key, funkier hangout with a big bar, an assortment of ugly flea market paintings and walls draped with chile-pepper-shaped Christmas lights. Both places offer a centrally located fireplace that, on a recent bitterly cold evening, warmed me up in minutes.

Richard Krause (who is also executive chef at Union Smith Cafe in Carroll Gardens) is the chef and Mamary's co-partner in this venture. His menu is gringo Mexican with dishes for people who want their fare mildly spiced and feel cheated if a wild mushroom and goat cheese taco is omitted from the



It's getting chile: The red chile beef taco salad at Cafe Enduro, the new Mexican spot in Prospect Lefferts Gardens.

roundup.

Like Pacifico, the atmosphere at Cafe Enduro is pleasing, even if the food is merely tolerable.

About that gwa-sah-mole: It's a lemony mix of chunky avocado, cilantro, tomatoes and whole lot of garlic served in a molcajete y tlepotle (a large lava-stone mortar and pestle that's perched on four legs). Untraditional? I don't recall garlic playing an important role in guacamole before. With a few

drops of hot sauce (several different bottles with escalating degrees of heat are available) the bulb's sting was neutralized and the mix gained depth.

We shared the entree "Veracruz crab cakes" as an appetizer. The two crisp crusts, plump patties studded with sweet corn kernels possessed the winy, oceanic taste of the fish. They were lovely solo. A side of white rice mixed with mild green chiles was tender yet bland, and a roasted red pepper sauce

looked pretty on the plate, but added no flavor at all.

Also in the "no flavor" category was a taco filled with "green chile pulled pork." The strands of meat were soft and moist, but had all the excitement of a roll of paper towels. A drizzle of barely sweet, barely spicy pineapple salsa didn't help.

Shrimp, clams in their shell and mussels were served over white rice that absorbed the briny, lightly garlic-scented seafood stock. It's a very beige dish, which is why, I'm guessing, someone in the kitchen felt it was necessary to shower the fish with crisp plantain chips. The little amber-colored discs added an attractive glow to the dish, but their crunch only detracted from the works.

I'm assuming that crepes are featured on the dessert list for the same reason I kept spotting tiramisu on Japanese restaurant menus: people ask for it. We opted for chocolate bread pudding with vanilla ice cream instead of the scoop of chocolate ice cream it's usually paired with. Served warm in a small, deep bowl, the finale was dense and spongy, not moist and custardy the way a good bread pudding should be. In a word: forgettable.

In a neighborhood big on takeout places, Cafe Enduro fills the void for a comfortable, casual eatery. It's never going to be a destination, but if you're in Prospect Lefferts Gardens or nearby and you're craving gwa-sah-mole, you could do worse.

Po crosses the river

Good news, Brooklyn! Po, that beloved vestige of Mario Batali's early career, is on its way to Cobble Hill.

The restaurant, at 276 Smith St., is expected to open in mid-March.

The original Manhattan trattoria opened in 1991 with a pre-FOOD Network Batali at the helm, but was later sold to Steve Crane and Jonathan Castled.

The restaurant, now piloted by Executive Chef Lee McGrath, continues to provide budget-conscious diners with thrilling house-made gnocchi, savory lamb paillard and Pecorini-crusted cod.

Clubs in a 1,000-square-foot Brooklyn outpost will do little to improve on the West Village mainstay's cramped quarters, a conceptual choice, Castled contends.

"Po will have the same menu with the same wine list," he told GO Brooklyn. "We want it to feel as much like the Manhattan restaurant as possible."

Po's Brooklyn pilgrimage is yet another triumph for the borough, now fully established as a dining Mecca for even the most stubborn island-dweller.

"You look at the New York Times or New York Magazine and you're seeing reviews of little places in Brooklyn," said Castled. "Cornelia Street is a little street with lots of little restaurants. Smith Street is reminiscent of that."

Though Batali is no longer part of the Po empire, we wonder how long it will be before the famed chef marches his orange Crocs across the bridge. It's only a matter of time.

Jordana Rothman

The cozy cafe

Former Food Network star Cheryl Smith has brought her talent from "on the air" to on your plate at Cheryl's Global Soul, her newly opened bistro in Prospect Heights.

"When people hear the name, they think soul food, like mac 'n' cheese and collard greens, but that's only part of it," Smith said. "We serve 'global fusion' comfort food from around the world."

She referred to her eatery space as "the cozy cafe around the way." The inviting eatery is painted fresh cream with warm wood lining one wall and matching modern woodwork. (A 12-seat outdoor garden and sidewalk cafe is scheduled to open this spring.)

Smith, who cooked in the kitchens of So's, Mar's, Lulu's, Vitello and Lola, serves up a smorgasbord of global favorites. In the morning,

when the cafe serves as a casual gathering spot for a late breakfast items, diners can linger over coffee and teas and enjoy fresh baked muffins, scones and other morning treats. Lunch is a casual affair with greenmarket salads and sandwiches like the "Heidi" with hard-boiled eggs, avocado, tomatoes and sprouts splashed with herbed vinaigrette or the "Alice" (pictured), with grilled seasonal veggies, olive tapenade, provolone, and balsamic vinegar.

The real cooking begins in the evening when Smith spins the globe offering bowls of Thai curried mussels, Moroccan vegetable tagine, sake-glazed salmon and Creole barbeque shrimp with mashed potatoes and wild greens.

She even serves a good old American burger with grilled onions

and fries.

There's a full bar — a few bottles of international wines are offered each evening as a wine list is still being developed — and a cocktail menu, as well as Smith's herb-infused juices and home-brewed ginger beer to keep your thirst quenched on your trip around the world.

Cheryl's Global Soul (236 Underhill Ave. between Eastern Parkway and Clinton Place in Prospect Heights) accepts cash only. Entrees: \$13-\$22. Breakfast items, lunch and dinner are available from Tuesday through Sunday. Brunch is served on weekends from 11 am to 4 pm. Closed Monday. Subway: 2, 3, 4 to Eastern Parkway/Brooklyn Museum. For information call (347) 529-2855 or visit www.cherylsglobal.com.

— Tina Barry

Black Pearl Restaurant & Bar
833 Union St. bet. 6th & 7th Ave.
SEAFOOD • RAW BAR • STEAKS • PASTA

BRUNCH eat & eve
Mon-Sat 11am-3pm
718-857-2004 • www.blackpearl.com

Karaoke Friday Nights
9pm to 1am with Mike Sisco!

Coralline Cafe
480 62nd St. (off 5th Avenue) • Open 6am-1am
(718) 492-6698 • www.corallinecafe.com

LUCCIA
5 COURSE Dinner Special
Mon-Sat 6-8 pm max
Not available holidays
CHOCOLATE
8 appetizers
6 pasta • 20 drink
Cafe & Dessert
24%
3 Course Lunch
Mon-Sat 12pm-3pm
Sundays 12pm-3pm
Not available holidays
12%
Having A Party?
Private Party Room Accommodates Up To 50 People
Office Parties, Reunions, Graduations, Showers, Celebrations & More!
6716 Fort Hamilton Pkwy • near 67th St. & Dyker Heights
(718) 238-9447

Seniors: 15% Discount
every Tuesday night (dine-in only)

LUCCIA
D.E.L.I.C.I.O.U.S.
Chinese Cuisine & Vegetarian Nutrition
• Fast Free Delivery
• Open 7 Days a Week
• Party Orders Welcome
We Only Use Vegetable Oil
Natural Cooking and Fresh Vegetables
162 Montague Street
Brooklyn Heights
(718) 522-5565/66
Fax: (718) 522-1205 (24hrs)
Mon-Thurs 11:30am-10:00pm
Fri-Sat 11:30am-11:00pm
Sundays 12:00pm-10:00pm
FREE \$7.00 min.

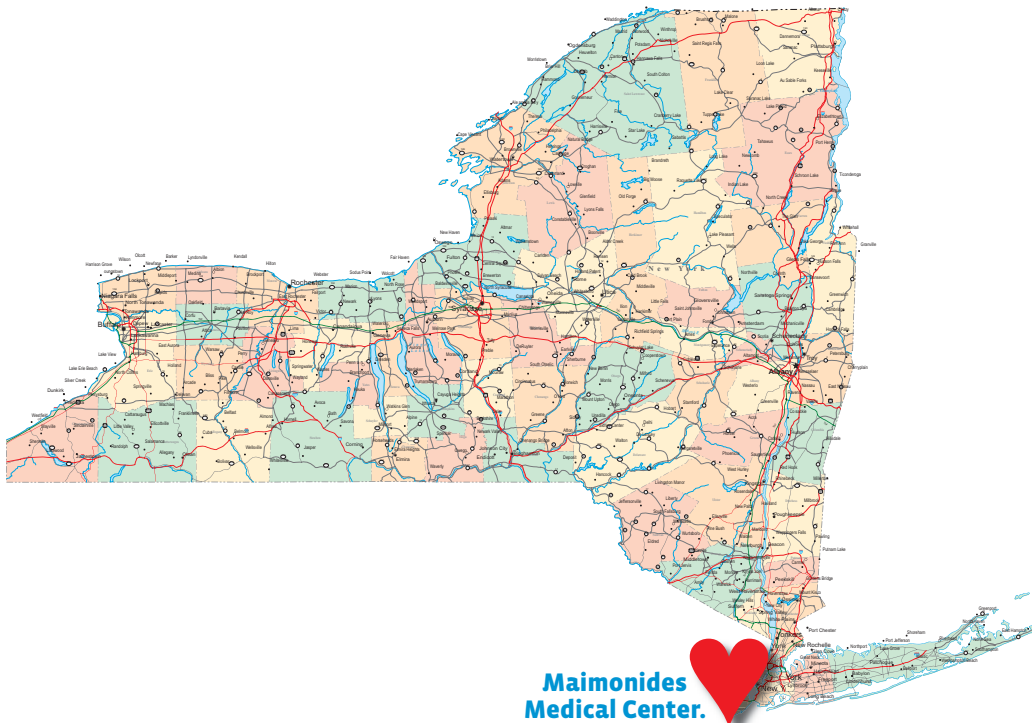
molt
dinner • late bar • brunch
kobe beef burger • steakhouse specials
healthy vegetarian • fresh seafood
bar menu • signature cocktails • fine wine
simple yet sophisticated food at its best
Kobe American Grilled Eats
dinner 5:15pm, bar 6pm/11:22am, brunch sat/sun 11am-3pm
440 bergen street (5th ave/flatbush)
718.230.5925

Helios Greek Taverna and more.
It's dark and cold. You're tired from work. Why go out? Let us bring fine Greek and American dishes to you.

HELIOS
Our food is prepared fresh when you order, so please call ahead.
Call while the grill is hot!
718.783.0033 718.783.4032

INTERNATIONAL RESTAURANT
Serving the community for 20 years
4408 5th Ave. (bet. 44th & 45th Sts.) (718) 438-2009
Open 7 days, 6am-midnight • www.4408.com

Graziella's
Italian Restaurant & Brick Oven Pizza
• Lunch & Nightly Specials
• Wood Burning Pizza
• Desserts & Coffee • Beer & Wine
• Private Parties Available 10-100 Persons
232 Vanderbilt Ave.
(bet. Dekalb & Wiloughby)
(718) 789-5663



The #1 rated hospital for Cardiology Services in New York State is in the heart of Brooklyn.

While this news might be a bit startling to some, to many people in the health care community it comes as no surprise at all.

You see, the Maimonides Cardiac Institute has a long history of achievement in the field of coronary care, with such milestones as the first successful heart transplant in the U.S. and the development of the world's first implantable pacemaker.

These pioneering efforts continue to this day as Maimonides is in the forefront of new treatments and technologies, including the use of robotically assisted heart surgery, biventricular pacing and heart ablation for atrial fibrillation.

Our expertise extends to angioplasty as well. Maimonides is rated #1 in New York City for Interventional Cardiology.

The Cardiac Institute is one of the most compre-

hensive cardiac centers in the nation, offering invasive and non-invasive, medical and surgical care. We are also a true partnership among referring doctors, cardiologists, cardiothoracic surgeons, nurses and professional staff, all sharing the singular goal of improved cardiac care for the Maimonides patient.

Which really begs the question: why would anyone go to Manhattan for great cardiac care when you can get it right on one of Brooklyn's major arteries?



Maimonides
Medical Center
Passionate about medicine.
Compassionate about people.

**Ranked #1 in New York State in 2007
for Cardiology Services by HealthGrades®**

In a cardiac emergency, call 911. For more information, visit www.maimonidesmed.org.

Cellaring: Plain & Simple

By Darrin Siegfried

Some things simply get better with time. Prime beef, when it's dry aged for 21 days or so, becomes much richer in flavor and so much more tender. Authentic country ham needs at least a full year to achieve that special salty-smoky-musky flavor that elevates it to another plane above other hams. Your first nibble of genuine, aged Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese will spoil you for life; there just is no substitute!

To taste, for the first time, a fine wine that has been aged to the point where all of its flavors have developed wonderful complexity, the acidity, alcohol and fruit in perfect balance... that is an experience that you simply do not forget. It can change your appreciation for wine, and, with a bit of understanding, can change your wine buying habits.

While most of the wine made all over the world is drunk young and is meant to be drunk young, a small percentage of wine improves with age. In fact, almost all "fine wine" is made with the expectation that the buyer will age it, or "put it down" for a while, until it has developed. This does not mean that it is only expensive wines that will develop over time: it's about quality, not about price. I have single-vineyard Fleurie from Beaujolais from the 2000 vintage that I'm sharing with my guests right now. This wine was made from old vines, grown in a vineyard that would be rated at least "Premier Cru" if Beaujolais allowed such ratings, and came from an outstanding vintage. My \$13 Beaujolais, bought in 2002, is drinking like a \$30 bottle. One of the best-known wine lovers in the nation, the owner of a cellar filled with treasured bottles of Bordeaux and Burgundy, told me about his everyday wine: Bonny Doon "Cigare Volant," put down alongside his curly Pomerols and Musignys, waiting until it's about seven years old or so. His \$25 California red now tastes like he paid twice as much for it. What happens in the cellar to bring about such a change?

Wine is made up of hundreds of naturally occurring chemical compounds. In time, tannic acid (tannins, for short) link up with pigment molecules and others, forming long, heavy molecules called polymers. These precipitate to the bottom of the bottle as sediment. When we drink a wine like this, we're drinking a wine that has shed much of the tannins that made it a more tart tasting wine when it was young.

It's not only red wines that can prove themselves age-worthy: aficionados of aged German and Alsatian Rieslings love the way that these white wines, especially the richer, sweeter ones, change with the years. They become darker, the flavors become more concentrated and complex, while the nose takes on a faint note of sewing machine oil.

Fortified wines, such as Porto and Madeira, are almost always aged: the problem is that, if you don't buy them young and age them yourself, they become impossibly expensive and difficult to obtain.

You don't need an actual cellar in order to age wines, and most of us who live in urban apartments don't have that kind of luxury. What we do need is an understanding of the enemies of wine, and how to avoid them.

Contact with air. Wines will oxidize when they come into contact with air, so we have to insure that the seal on our bottles is secure. Keep your bottles on their side, so that the corks will stay wet. Dry corks shrink, allowing wine to escape and air to get into the bottle. Cases of wine can be stored upside down, resting with the corks facing down.

Extremes of heat and cold. 55 degrees Fahrenheit is ideal for storing wines; red and white, and the closer to that temperature, the better. Wines kept at a higher temperature will mature faster, while very cold bottles hardly develop at all.

Fluctuations in temperature. Choose a spot where the temperature is fairly constant. Light, sunlight and fluorescent light especially are harmful to wine. You will want to keep your wines away from light.

Vibrations. Those molecules that need to link up if we want our wines to age well won't have a chance if they're being shaken up regularly. If there are buses and trucks rumbling by, or a subway line underneath your building, you'll have to find a calmer spot for your collection.

Years ago I turned a good-sized closet into a cellar, and it worked out fine. Simple wooden racks, available online, went along one side and kept my loose bottles neat and organized, while full cases were stacked along the opposite wall. It was a great place, when guests came to dinner, to go to "my cellar" and pick out a bottle or two that I had been holding, waiting for the right occasion and the right company to enjoy them with.



211 Fifth Avenue

(bet. Union & President) PARK SLOPE

Open: Mon-Sat, 10am-10pm, Sun, 12-8pm
www.redwhiteandbubbly.com • 636-9463

atlantico

031 Table in Gdx. Also in Cherry

shoprico.com

American Leather Fontana Arte
Atlanticco de La Espada Maria Yee
Baronet Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams
Bruno Marina Gallery Robert Abbey
DellaRobbia Thayer Coggins

rico

372 & 384 atlantic ave brooklyn 718 797 2077

art lighting furniture decor

Get JAZZED!

with Jazz for Young People™ Concerts

These narrated concerts delight families with their warmth, humor and musical insights. Recommended for ages 6 & up.

HOW DO WE CREATE JAZZ MOODS?
Wynton Marsalis & Friends
Saturday, May 19, 2007
Rose Theater, 12 & 2pm

GET TICKETS WHILE THEY LAST!
ONLY \$12, \$17 & \$32
www.jazf.org
CenterCharge 212-721-6500

WHAT IS LATIN JAZZ?
Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra
with Arturo O'Farrill
Saturday, March 3, 2007
Rose Theater, 12 & 2pm

Box Office
Broadway at 60th St.
(ground floor)
Mon-Sat 10am-6pm
Sun 12pm-6pm

Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts
Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts
Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts

Cash-ing in

Brooklyn throws a birthday party for the Man in Black

By Emily Farris
For The Brooklyn Paper

Johnny Cash might have passed away, but that's no reason to cancel his birthday party.

On Feb. 24, for the second time since Cash's death in 2003, the posthumous "Cash Bash" will take place at Southpaw in Park Slope. Organized by local country music maverick Alex Battles, the event is part of a surprisingly large scene that's bringing Brooklyn that much closer to Biloxi.

Johnny Cash is a great country music ice-breaker," Battles told GO Brooklyn this week. "But, we hope that by doing this people will notice the new music we're making."

The "we" Battles refers to is a group of New York singer-songwriters — some performing at the Cash Bash — each working to put Brooklyn on the country music map. Battles's own band, Whisky Rebellion, is among the leaders of the pack.

At the Cash Bash, though, it's all about the Man in Black.

"When it gets time for my band, there's no time for anything but Johnny Cash," said Battles. "We have to get everything in that people want to hear."

Whisky Rebellion will provide constant backing for Battles and a line-up of special guest singers including Jesse Ca Rose, Louisiana Emily, Kara Suzanne, Eli Smith and s.a.m. In addition, the Dock Oscar Gospel Quartet will lend their soulful sound for Cash classics such as "Will the Circle Be Unbroken."

New to this year's Bash, film curator Clinton McClung will kick off the evening with a selection of rare Johnny Cash film clips and television appearances. Following McClung are the Lonesome Prairie Dogs, a quartet with a strong vintage sound.

Battles, an Ohio transplant, is known for bringing Brooklynites the country music they want to hear. In addition to organizing the Cash Bash, he hosts concerts and old-timey jams throughout Brooklyn on a regular basis.

In fact, in September, Southpaw hosted his Third Annual Country Music Festival, an all-day event with acts on the main stage, the downstairs lounge and even the sidewalk. Now a seasoned musician, he plans to run his part of the Bash like an old-style Opry.

This reporter first learned what Battles was up to nearly two years ago when, stepping out of a South Slope apartment late one night, the sounds of banjos and guitars came pouring out of the bar across the street. Intrigued, I asked my way through the smokers huddled outside to discover a mix of hipsters, Yuppies and old-timers jamming on acoustic instruments. Musicians walked on and off stage between Cash and Hank Williams numbers and took the mic when the music — or the

beat — moved them.

What I had accidentally discovered was the CashHank Hootenanny Jam, a monthly acoustic jam session on the last Thursday of every month at Buttermilk Bar, organized by Battles and dedicated to country classics.

While my stage fright and half-hearted attempts to learn the guitar have relegated me to a little tambourine banging and back-up singing, I've watched the CashHank grow from a small jam to a destination event with a packed stage and standing-room only.

Now billed as a semi-acoustic jam session — a few of the guitars are hooked up to amplifiers — the

CashHank now features a pre-jam performance, showcasing a different up-and-coming country act each month.

Despite the stigma of country music not being for city folks, Doug DeFalco, the head booker for JELLYNYC, a collective that books shows at Southpaw and other venues around the city, is convinced that country is becoming an integral part of the New York music scene and is impressed with Battles's promotion of other country acts.

Though the Man in Black is no longer with us, his influence has definitely found a home in Brooklyn and plenty of locals, it seems, are more than happy to follow in his footsteps and walk the line.



Pickin' Battles: Alex Battles, singer and guitarist for the Whisky Rebellion, is emceeing the third annual Cash Bash, paying tribute to what would have been Johnny Cash's 75th birthday.

BERLIN...

Continued from page 1

Huttler said Galapagos was a "trailblazer" in this respect, and that Elmes has proved "there is a way to be a successful venue in this city without compromising your artistic integrity."

It hasn't been an easy ride for Galapagos. It took almost three years of struggling to pay rent before it could permanently open in June 1998. In December 2005, the rent on its North Sixth Street space was hiked by \$10,000, a staggering amount for a small venue.

"We were able to make the jump by reinventing ourselves and doubling our programming," said Elmes.

In the coming year, Galapagos faces an additional rent increase of 30 to 40 percent, but Elmes is confident in the space's future.

"We've always tried to respond and bring great programs to our audiences," he said.

While Galapagos doesn't aspire to be the next BAM, Elmes credits some of its success to BAM's paternal influence.

"BAM will be a big part of our ability to achieve our dreams," he said. "Every venue needs a Big Sister, and we'd like to think that they're ours. Their interest in us and their advice and the fact that

they care is inspiring and comforting, and makes us braver and more confident."

This month, Galapagos, along with several other small clubs and art spaces, is partnering with BAM in "Brooklyn Next," a series of concerts featuring emerging and established Brooklyn artists.

"It's absolutely imperative to partner with like-minded institutions like BAM," Elmes said. "It reflects a necessity to bring in new audiences."

BAM Executive Producer Joseph Melillo, the man largely responsible for "Brooklyn Next," said Galapagos "adds authenticity" to the BAM program.

"It's absolutely necessary," he said. "Galapagos does a very

High-rise hi-jinks

Plenty of people love their apartments, but how many apartments love them back?

In "Little Building," writer-director Nick Jones's musical — now in its second run at Galapagos — that's just what happens.

The show follows Ralph, a real estate developer, as he begins a torrid affair with the Little Building, a Manhattan high-rise. The two become love and hate for the frigid expense of Alaska and, hoping to spark a new real estate trend, establish the far-flung sixth borough of Newer York City.

Without the budget of an actual real



estate developer, however, the sets for the show are made from deliciously low-tech cardboard. Every character encountered along the journey, from the singing

glue factory to the fortune-telling airport, has a human face peeking out.

"It's a character exercise in absurdity," Jones told GO Brooklyn. Jones, who previously worked in real estate, collaborated with composer Benjamin Jinks on the show, which sold-out its first Galapagos run in 2006.

If nothing else, this riotous satire will make you think twice before insulting new development. After all, you might be missing a chance at true love.

"Little Building" will run Feb. 16, 17 and 18 at 7:30 PM at Galapagos Art Space (70 N. Sixth St. in Williamsburg). Tickets are \$13 in advance or \$15 at the door. For information call (718) 384-4586 or visit www.galapagosartspace.com.

— Amy Butler

project that believes in Brooklyn and puts the best Brooklyn artists in front of the best audience in the world."

LOCATION LOCATION

Remember the most important thing in Real Estate

Check here for featured listings

Licensed Real Estate Broker

Buying Selling Renting

184 DeKalb Ave.
(bet. Carlton & Cumberland)
(718) 222-1199
www.3location3.com

SPRING BANQUET MENUS AVAILABLE

Lunch: Tues-Fri • Dinner: Tues-Sun (open Sundays at 1pm)
DINNER DELIVERY & VALET PARKING

Fresh food cooked to order

Pietro's Trattoria

8727 - 4th Avenue
corner of 88th & 4th
(718) 238-8600

An Exceptional meal.

Marco Polo RISTORANTE

Pioneer of the fine restaurant movement in Brooklyn

345 Court Street (at Union Street) 718-852-5015
Open 7 days for lunch and dinner • Free Valet Parking • • •

Visit our website www.MarcoPoloRistorante.com

139 Montague Street • 718.858.5592
www.latraviatogo.com • Delivery in Brooklyn Heights only

9 P.M.S...

Continued from page 2

CHILDREN

GROUNDHOG SERIES: Brooklyn Art Exchange presents a series for family and friends. Today, Harley Sandler/Inspector Collector in "Real Fake." Enjoy an interactive performance that exhibits a hands-on display and discussion of paper money from around the world. Participants are invited to create their own paper money with linen paper, and customize anti-counterfeiting marks. \$10. \$10 kids younger than 12, 2 p.m. 421 Fifth Ave. (718) 632-0018.

BROOKLYN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: presents carnival player Dean Otton from the Brooklyn-Congress Conservatory of music. Kids get an intro to jazz music and instruments. Appropriate for all ages. \$4, free for members. 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. 145 Brooklyn Ave. (718) 775-4400.

OTHER

SUNDAY PLATFORM: Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture presents a President's Day Colloquy. Theme: community. 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 53 Prospect Park West (718) 768-0272. Free.

BROOKLYN AND THE REVOLUTION: Urban Park Rangers explain Brooklyn's significant impact on the American Revolution. 1 p.m. Meet at Victory Center, Fort Greene Park. Enter park near Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park entrance. 311. Free.

CRAFTS WORKSHOP: Brooklyn Artists' Group hosts a workshop on the accordion. \$40 plus \$10 materials fee. 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. 168 Seventh St. (718) 658-0067.

CAFE STEINHOFF: presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

Mon, Feb 19

President's Day

First Unitarian Congregational Society, 48 Monroe Pl. (718) 496-5514.

UNCOVERING CHASSIDIM: An interactive series on Chassidim continues to "bring to life" a discussion of the "Alter Rebbe," founder of the Chabad Lubavitch movement, at Congregation B'nai Avraham of Brooklyn Heights. Led by Rabbi Aaron L. Raskin. 8 p.m. 117 Remsen St. (718) 596-4400 ext. 18. Open to all. Free.

LIST YOUR EVENT...

To list your event in *Nine Days*, Brooklyn, please give us two weeks notice or more. Send your listing by e-mail to events@brooklynpaper.com. The Brooklyn Paper, 624 Broadway, N.Y. 10012, or by fax: (718) 834-9278. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.

Tues, Feb 20

LECTURE: Senior Umbrella Network of Brooklyn hosts Dr. Roberto Sotera in a talk: "Taking Care of Your Elderly Parents." Even if They Don't Take Care of You." 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Bay 106 St. Metro Ave. 476 7th Ave. (718) 745-7508. Free.

BUSINESS TALK: CANADA Small Business Services offers a class "Credit Repair and Money Management." 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 884 Flatbush Ave. (718) 262-2000. Free.

BLOOD DRIVE: at HSCB. 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Flatbush station. 884 Flatbush Ave. Flat Hall Plaza (800) 933-0080.

SENIOR HEALTH: Seniors are invited to learn about heart attacks and strokes and what to do in an emergency 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Retirement Development, The Way of the Angels Church, 7320 Fourth Ave. (718) 630-8664. Free.

TWO BOOTS: Celebrate Mardi Gras at a party at Two Boots Bar and Restaurant. Louisiana-style baggy hour with New Orleans jazz by Judy's New Thing. 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. Voodoubilities play Zydeco and Cajun music. No cover. no minimum. \$14 Second St. (718) 679-3253.

Weds, Feb 21

MEETING: of Community Broad 7. 6:30 p.m. 421 Third Ave. (718) 654-0030.

BROOKLYN LIBERTARIANS: Meeting at Park Cafe. 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. 82 Seventh Ave. (718) 783-5072. Free.

FILM: Screening of "Brooklyn Matters," a documentary film about the proposed development of Atlantic Yards at Forest City Ratner Group. 7 p.m. Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School, 327 Clermont Ave. (718) 433-9219. (718) 658-0067.

Thurs, Feb 22

BROOKLYN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: hosts "Talking Pigeon," a workshop on gravity, lift and air resistance in flying. Appropriate for all ages. \$5, free for members. 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. 145 Brooklyn Ave. (718) 775-4400.

RECEPTION: Artwork-NYC Gallery presents "Life Still," by Alexia Preskles. 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. 111 Front St., Suite 216. (718) 493-0200. Free.

BARGE MUSIC: Classical music concert of works by Fauré, Schumann, Prokofiev and Liszt. 8:30 p.m. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 424-2083.

THEATER: "True West." 8 p.m. See Sat, Feb. 24.

Fri, Feb 23

WELLNESS WORKSHOP: Brooklyn Social Therapy Group hosts "A Grow Your Life Workshop." Learn how to socialize and work with others and build relationships. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 106 St. Metro Ave. 476 7th Ave. (718) 745-7508. Free.

BARGE MUSIC: Enhanced classical music concert of works by Fauré, Schumann, Prokofiev and Liszt. 8:30 p.m. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 424-2083.

GOOD COFFEEHOUSE: presents acoustic jazz. The Penetration. 8:30 p.m. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 Prospect Park West (718) 768-0272.

BROOKLYN NEXT: Grammy-winning music presents Grammy-winning songwriter Gordon Chambers. 8:30 p.m. Harvey Theater, 651 Fulton St. (718) 635-4100.

THEATER: "Shit! Don't Wake the Corpses." 8 p.m. See Sat, Feb. 24.

GALLERY PLAYERS: "Voliet." 8 p.m. See Sat, Feb. 24.

THEATER: "True West." 8 p.m. See Sat, Feb. 24.

MY BROOKLYN CONTEST: Brooklyn Public Library invites artists and writers of all ages to take part in the photo and essay contest. For entry info, visit brooklynpubliclibrary.org/mybrooklyn/.

Sat, Feb 24

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

MORNING BRIDING: The Urban Park Rangers host a walk around the Salt Marsh Nature Preserve. The Nature Trail. Learn about the birds of the salt marsh and view some of its winter migrants. 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. 145 Brooklyn Ave. (718) 775-4400.

ICE SKATING: Wellman rink is open, \$5. 55 Avenue of the Americas. 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. Prospect Park, across through the Parkade. Ocean Avenue entrance or the Lincoln Road Ocean Avenue entrance. (718) 227-5232.

WALK IN THE PARK: The Urban Park Rangers host a walk around the Salt Marsh Nature Preserve. The Nature Trail. Learn about the birds of the salt marsh and view some of its winter migrants. 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. 145 Brooklyn Ave. (718) 775-4400.

FOREVER EVERGREEN: Urban Park Rangers host a walk around the Salt Marsh Nature Preserve. The Nature Trail. Learn about the birds of the salt marsh and view some of its winter migrants. 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. 145 Brooklyn Ave. (718) 775-4400.

WALKING TOUR: Mauricio Florence hosts a tour of Fort Greene, Clinton Hill and Brooklyn Heights. 5:25 p.m. to 5 p.m. Marriott Hotel, 333 Adams St. (718) 624-2083.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

and children. 8 p.m. Patrick's Auditorium, Fourth Avenue and 97th Street. (718) 462-3173.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents "Voliet," a musical set during the civil rights movement. 8 p.m. 199 14th St. (212) 352-3101.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents "Bring Me the Head of Althea." 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. 422 Seventh Ave. Free.

Black history month events

Continued from page 2

Sat, Feb 17

CONCERT

KIDS THE BROOKLYN PAPER SCHOOL CAMP PARENT PARENTE MUSIC

It's that time of year again

Now was in the forecast. Valentine's Day was coming (it's Hepcat's least-favorite Hallmark holiday). And in the middle of everything, Smartnom found out that one of her paying projects has been substantially downsized.

Smartnom has the blues and she's got 'em bad. Yeah. Yeah. One door opens and another one closes. But try telling that to Smartnom when it comes calling for the \$3,500 she still owes for Teen Spirit's Bay Ridge Prep schooling.

Not to mention the stack of bills on the dining room table mingling with last night's dirty dinner plates that she couldn't bring herself to clean.

And Buddha forbid that Hepcat pick up a dirty plate and take it to the kitchen sink (forget putting it in the dishwasher — that would be beyond the beyond).

Not even get her started on OSFO or Teen Spirit.

She's asked them again and

again to remember to clear the table. But far be it from those entitled sycophants to be considerate of Smartnom on her worst night in months.

Obviously, Smartnom is

SMART mom

By Louise Crawford

feeling very Rodney Dangerfield-like at the moment. She doesn't get no respect from her kids or her husband. Truth is, she can't get no respect from nobody. Life sucks and she can't take it anymore.

Slow down, Smartnom. You're getting a little carried away. It's not like anyone is having such a good time these days. Take Mrs. Cleavage. Last month, she broke her foot walking down the stairs and has been on crutches ever since.

Then, she discovered that she and her daughter

were getting better, her 10-year-old cockatiel, Jackie, got deathly ill.

Saturday night after midnight, Divorce Diva placed Jackie in her grandmother's sewing basket and took Eastern Car Service to the Animal Medical Center's emergency room in Manhattan. The beloved cockatiel was dead by 11 a.m.

Rest in peace, Jackie.

So Smartnom should stop her belly aching. In the scheme of things, it could be worse. She

public displays, but I could not keep it together," she told Smartnom over white chocolate cake at the Ocean Bar.

When Mrs. Cleavage, a single mom, got home, she called her therapist. "He now stands even less of a chance of being paid for his services," I sobbed through that phone call.

Then there's Smartnom's friend, Tall and Lanky, whose daughter was injured in a school circus arts class and had to spend two days in the pediatric ICU with a spleen injury.

And Divorce Diva's life makes Smartnom's travails look like a day at Canyon Ranch. Last month, she broke her foot walking down the stairs and has been on crutches ever since.

Then, she discovered that she and her daughter were getting better, her 10-year-old cockatiel, Jackie, got deathly ill.

Saturday night after midnight, Divorce Diva placed Jackie in her grandmother's sewing basket and took Eastern Car Service to the Animal Medical Center's emergency room in Manhattan. The beloved cockatiel was dead by 11 a.m.

Rest in peace, Jackie.

So Smartnom should stop her belly aching. In the scheme of things, it could be worse. She

could have a broken limb, a head full of lice, a child with a spleen injury or a hysterical crying jag on the subway.

But life is not a game of comparative misery. We all get to be as nasty as we wanna be. No matter how bad or good the reason.

And Smartnom really doesn't have a good reason. She's got two great kids — who refuse to use the hamper and leave their clothing on the bathroom floor.

She's healthy — even if can't bare to look at the bathroom scale anymore and seems incapable of going running in the park.

She's got a wonderful husband — who comes home late from work, walks straight to his computer, and continues working until the wee hours of the morning. Plus he probably forgot to give her a Valentine's Day gift (really, what's so hard about going to the City Pot).

Lastly, she loves what she does — but she's not making enough money. And she needs

an agent. And she has all these aspirations, all these goals and sometimes she doesn't know how to go about meeting them.

Truthfully, the best thing Smartnom has going in her life right now is the new high-definition, flat-screen TV on which she and Hepcat spent too much money and on which she watches re-runs of her new favorite show, "Scrubs."

Yes, all is right with the world when Dr. Perry Cox, the curmudgeonly, caring, and wildly funny John McGinley, rants about everything that's wrong with his life, the residents he overuses, and the quality of care at the surreal Sacred Hearts Hospital.

Smartnom can relate. Life sucks. What can you say: "Scrubs" is a really great show. You should watch it sometime. Louise Crawford is the writer of "Only the blog knows Brooklyn" and the keeper of the "Park Slope 100."

By Ariella Cohen

The Brooklyn Paper

They gave her what she wanted this Valentine's Day. Hallmark may sell Feb. 14 in shades of rose-petal pink, but in Park Slope, blue works, too.

And one tidy Fifth Avenue sex shop, the Pink Pussycat Boutique, has the sales receipts to show for it.

It's been a really good week for edibles," said Sheila Davis, the manager of the closet-sized erotic store across the street from MS 51 near Sixth Street.

It was the night before Valentine's Day, the Christmas of sex, and the tall, tattooed saleswoman had just sold a \$50 box of Kama Sutra-brand chocolate body paint (marked down from \$69.99 on a V-day sale).

"Usually, on a Tuesday I see three people in here — today, we got 20," she said.

"There were couples, single people, everyone trying to get some of this little sensual, a little different," she said.

This Cupid's day, the hot items at the pink-walled shop were, as Davis put it, edible: flavored lotions, fruity massage oils and chocolate "sex-cer-



A young couple — perhaps anticipating getting a chocolate-filled heart from her smitten dad — points to her favorite day on a calendar in her classroom at Park Slope's PS 107.

ries." A chocolate martini-flavored self-warming lubricant sold briskly, she noted.

There were plenty of options for those seeking to go beyond the cards-and-flowers route — and boy, were people looking. One couple perused devil-

red lingerie, pausing to giggle at the "Love Cuffs." But they left without buying anything.

Another couple left with the chocolate body paint. But they took their sex-cs-ory and sped away without comment.

LIBRARY ART BAN...



This is one of the images edited out from a Brooklyn Public Library show about the neighborhood around Bruce Ratner's Atlantic Yards development.

BARCLAYS...

Continued from page 1

know that we're not the type of constituency you can take for granted," said Clarke. "I will not stand for the community being blindsided."

While the Barclays naming-rights deal may remain on the table — and leaders may try to wrangle more money from Barclays — at least one issue is no longer up for discussion. "At this point, I don't think there should be debate about whether Barclays was involved with the trans-Atlantic slave trade," said the Rev. Miller. "Unless Barclays, as a historic financial institution, reconciles itself with its history, there will be ongoing barriers that will hinder them to do the type of business they want to do in Brooklyn and in America."

Clarke said the next step would be a meeting with Barclays or orchestrated by Forest City Ratner.

The developer would not comment on the ongoing negotiations. Barclays has denied any link to the slave trade.

TERROR...

Continued from page 1

"So now I'm supposed to wonder if that guy on the laptop next to me is writing the great American novel or writing his suicide note before he blows himself up on the Brooklyn Bridge?" asked a regular customer.

"That sounds ridiculous to me," added Leila Mohr, 23, a regular Tea Lounge patron. "It seems so dramatic and unreal. How would they know who was a terrorist? It seems like they're trying to induce fear and paranoia."

Ben Jones and Libba Bray, who referred to the Lounge as their "cubicle," had more pressing fears than terrorists sitting yerba mate while browsing Al Qaeda Web sites on the neighboring couch.

"Terrorists are the least of our worries — we have people playing the harmonica here and disturbing our workplace," said Jones, referring to management's recent removal of a man who refused to stop playing his pocket-sized instrument in the cafe.

LIVERWORST...

Continued from page 1

rias, has led some to wonder if "Mayor Nanny" will back a ban on foie gras, which, putting aside the question of duck cruelty, is certainly not a health food.

Sloppers who breezed past Fairway's half dozen foie-gras options on their way to the regularly scheduled Shabbat service. "I know it's supposed to be gross," said Jonathan Weinstein. "But so are lots of things. I'm not sure why this is so different."

Weinstein pointed at the sushi counter and then walked over and put a container of raw tuna in his cart, next to a carton of eggs that he noted were "farm-raised."

Other customers already feel like they know enough about the issue. "I love foie gras," said Amelie Mancini, a native of France who regularly shops at Fairway. "In France, it is on every family's holiday table every year. Some people are bothered by the cruelty, but it's very rare not to eat it."

Fairway maintains that it will not stop selling the spread. And this week, promotional posters for the delicacy were noticeably tamer.

The sign that called foie gras manufacturer Three Little Pigs "our local hero" was even smaller than the cellphone-sized pouch of liver.

BOAT

Continued from page 1

He hasn't gotten any corporate sponsors, but he didn't stop him from splashing the Barclays logo on renderings of the boat (it's not likely that the financial behemoth will touch anything that links it, again, to slavery).

But Mooney, who once got free workspace from Atlantic Yards developer Bruce Ratner, is always optimistic.

"Barclays is good for Brooklyn," he said. "I commend Barclays."

The bank, which recently signed a naming-rights deal for Ratner's proposed Nets arena, provides anti-retroviral medication for its employees.

South Africa. Mooney is hopeful that Barclays will do the same thing in Brooklyn.

But even though there's still plenty of work to be done, Mooney is convinced that everything will happen according to plan.

"This battle is not mine," said Mooney, who lost a brother to AIDS. "This battle is God's."

Mooney's enthusiasm will not be dimmed. When The Brooklyn Paper awarded him the "Most Quotable" award at the end of 2006, Mooney took it as a compliment.

"Don Quixote, a timeless image of humanity, is often viewed as an example of modern times, an individual personality of extraordinary imagination, defiant of the role society has assigned him," he wrote on his Web site.

Whatever floats your boat, Victor.

PARK SLOPE • WINDSOR TERRACE • BAY RIDGE • KENSINGTON

THE PARK SLOPE DAY CAMP

Our Camp

- Variety of programs for campers age 3 1/2 to 15
- Safe, fun, stimulating environment
- Very flexible registration; accommodating 9 week season
- Free morning transportation from most Bay Ridge and Brownstone Brooklyn areas
- Established 1992

718-304-7888
www.parkslopedaycamp.com

Park Explorers

summer day camp

Healthy Outdoor Fun in Park Slope Brooklyn!

Different activities daily
Experienced staff
weekly & monthly sessions

Ages 4-14
718-788-3620
www.parkexplorers.com

FAMILY CLASSIFIEDS

Entertainment

"Quality Magic At Affordable Prices"

Magicans • Clowns • Jugglers
Hoopers • Games • Balloons • Games
Shows Starting @ \$99
www.MagicAtAffordablePrices.com
917-549-1272

Rice the Clown

Magician & Comical Nerd
Birthday parties and special occasions — Adults & Kids. Comedy Magic, Balloon Sculpting, Puppets, Games, M.C., Comic Readings.
"University Professor of Speech & Communication"

718-434-9697
917-318-9092

Instruction

SLOPE MUSIC

Instrumental & Vocal
Jazz • Classical • Folk • Rock
Call for free interview
slopemusic.com
Bands available
718-768-3804

Photography

Call for Holiday Packages
718-389-0244 nikitastudio.com

Tutors

SAT Test Prep/Tutoring
Princeton Grad, 10+ yrs teaching SAT/Writing. Tutoring or small group instruction. Math group meets Sat. 12-4:30 in Park Slope (2 open seats).
edantone.com (718) 501-5111

Communion and Christening Dresses

FLOWER GIRLS
TUXEDOS/SUITS
SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Made 4 Me Boutique

298 DeGraw St.
(near Court Street)
(718) 596-7262
Sun-Fri by app. / Sat 11-6

Huggs Day School, Inc.

A fully licensed and certified preschool

- 2-4 year old programs
- Licensed teachers
- Optimal educational equipment
- Exclusive outdoor facilities
- Indoor Gym facilities
- 2, 3, 4 or 5 mornings, afternoons or full days
- Spacious Classrooms
- Enriched Curriculum
- Caring, loving environment

Call: 230-5255 • 763 President Street (bet. 6th & 7th Aves.)

Physically Active, NATURE ORIENTED, Outdoor, TRAVELING Day Camp

27 years of operation

Experienced, Carefully Chosen, Adult Staff

Daily Trips to:

- Swimming at a lake, pool and the beach.
- Weekly hikes and trips to Museums, Zoos, Playgrounds, The Aquarium, Liberty Science Center, Bowling and a special trip to Sesame Pl.

KIM'S KIDS SUMMER CAMP

Flexible Schedule: 3, 4, 5 or 6 weeks.
3, 4 or 5 days a week.
Early drop-off (8am) and late pick up (6pm) available
Ages 5 to 11 years

Park Slope • (718) 768-6419

Shot Park Slope cop gets out of the hospital



Juan Suarez, father of shot cop Andrew Suarez, spoke to reporters this week while his son recovered at New York Methodist Hospital in Park Slope.

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

A police officer who was allegedly shot by the husband of a fellow cop in the wee hours on a quiet Park Slope street went home from New York Methodist Hospital this week.

More than 100 of Andrew Suarez's cop comrades cheered the 25-year-old officer as he was wheeled out of the Seventh Avenue hospital on Tuesday, where he had been recovering from wounds suffered in the Saturday, Feb. 10, shooting.

"I'm happy to be alive, guys," Suarez said. "Thank you."

The bizarre shooting, on Prospect Place

and Sixth Avenue, near Suarez's 78th Precinct stationhouse, still perplexed people from Park Slope to One Police Plaza.

Suarez and three other plainclothes officers were sitting in a police van when Jose Rivera, a 30-year-old ex-con married to a police officer, pulled up and engaged in a stare-down with the cops, according to the NYPD.

"You — as got a beef?" Rivera allegedly said before pulling a black handgun and unloading it into the van, hitting Suarez under the arm.

The other three officers returned fire, but missed Rivera, who sped off down Sixth Avenue, cops said.

Hours later, cops pulled over the white

Acura with Rivera's wife, Police Officer

Jacqueline Melendez, 37, behind the wheel.

She claimed she was just parking the car. She was later charged with evidence tampering and marijuana possession, but has spent most of the time since the shooting apologizing for the incident.

"That apology didn't impress Suarez's fellow 78th Precinct officers this week."

"She's a criminal as far as I'm concerned," said one cop at the Sixth Avenue stationhouse. Another was mostly angered by the fact that Melendez, a 13-year NYPD veteran, apparently aided her husband instead of arresting him.

"If my husband did that, I would've gone to hug him — but then slapped the cuffs right on him," said another officer.



Police officer Andrew Suarez, flanked by his mom Maria and his dad Juan, in this undated photo taken shortly after the 25-year-old's graduation from the Police Academy.

BROOKLYN BRIEFS

What's with that PO orb?

By Michael Giardina
for the Brooklyn Paper

What is that weird thing sitting on top of the main post office? The odd silver structure that stands atop the Cadman Plaza East post office (below) leaves many on-lookers puzzled.

"I have absolutely no idea," said customer Curtis Stephen. "It looks like something from 'The Jetsons.'"

Others suggested that the vaguely orb-like ball and spire could be concealing a cellphone transmitter.

"Or maybe it's sending out signals to planets all over the galaxy," added Ira Erns, only partially joking.

We spent the morning polling the men and women on the street, but no one had any idea what the fancy filial meant.

Mystery solved: It's just a nifty lightning rod, said the federal General Services Administration. "It is a decorative spine," said Renee Misicione, regional press officer for the GSA, which owns the 73-year-old building. "It is an architectural structure that serves as lightning protection."

Brooklyn Heights can rest without worrying. Their post office is not, apparently, sending out any signals.

Look, up in the sky! Is it a ball? Is it a pan? No, it's super lightning rod!

Jeannette Gadson dies

By Christie Rizk
The Brooklyn Paper

Jeannette Gadson, who went from serving on a community board to becoming Brooklyn's first black woman deputy borough president, died on Tuesday. She was 61 years old.

Gadson was Howard Golden's number two from 1993 to 2001, and then ran for the top job against Marty Markowitz, losing to him by 12,000 votes.

This week, Markowitz praised Gadson as a woman "who served her community so vigorously, gave passionate voice to the concerns of so many Brooklynites, and contributed her boundless energy to spurring the renaissance that has continued to transform our borough."

Gadson had been active in politics long before running for her old boss's job. She was an Assemblywoman and district manager of Community Board 16 in Brownsville.

During her tenure as deputy Beep, she worked to increase affordable housing. "We shared a mutual respect that continued long past the campaign," said Markowitz, "and I sincerely believe that Brooklyn would have been in good hands regardless of who won."

She spearheaded the Brooklyn 2000 Census Task Force and in 2004, she was appointed as a Board of Elections commissioner, which she remained until her death.

In a statement, Golden described her as a "wonderful public servant and a great friend."

Gadson was also an active and important member of her church, and was a life member of Church Women United, a group run by Ophelia Perry, Markowitz's liaison to the church community.

"She was sensational," said Perry. "I loved her very much. She was so compassionate and she was always willing to help anyone who came to her office. She never turned anyone away."

There will be a wake on Sunday from 11 to 9 pm at the House of Hills, 1000 St. Johns Pl. Gadson's funeral will be on Monday at noon at Wayside Baptist Church, at 1746 Broadway, between Cooper and Chauncey streets.

Assassinated pol gets his own 4-part play

By Dana Rubinstein
The Brooklyn Paper

Slain Councilman James E. Davis is about to join Abe Lincoln, Julius Caesar and James Garfield — other famously assassinated pols whose stories ended up on stage.

Sheila Lindsey's new play about the Fort Greene Councilman, "Love Yourself, Stop the Violence" — The James E. Davis Story," will make its debut this Saturday.

The first part of the anticipated

four-play figure tells of Davis's early years as a civic leader who advocated peace in the wake of the Crown Heights riots and ultimately founded an organization to combat urban violence.

"The play begins with the riots," said Lindsey. "People are looking, and James says to [his brother] Geoffrey that he's angry about what happened, but he wants to show that he's a person of peace."

Davis, who served as a Cor-

rection officer, cop, and councilman in his short life, was assassinated by a rival in a bizarre City Hall shooting in 2003 that made national headlines.

The following three plays will follow James through his political life, the assassination, and his legacy.

"We couldn't have the assassination in this play," said Geoffrey Davis. "One, because that's not the story of this man's life. And two, because I'm just not ready to face that yet."

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

By Dana Rubinstein
The Brooklyn Paper

Slain Councilman James E. Davis is about to join Abe Lincoln, Julius Caesar and James Garfield — other famously assassinated pols whose stories ended up on stage.

Sheila Lindsey's new play about the Fort Greene Councilman, "Love Yourself, Stop the Violence" — The James E. Davis Story," will make its debut this Saturday.

The first part of the anticipated

four-play figure tells of Davis's early years as a civic leader who advocated peace in the wake of the Crown Heights riots and ultimately founded an organization to combat urban violence.

"The play begins with the riots," said Lindsey. "People are looking, and James says to [his brother] Geoffrey that he's angry about what happened, but he wants to show that he's a person of peace."

Davis, who served as a Cor-

rection officer, cop, and councilman in his short life, was assassinated by a rival in a bizarre City Hall shooting in 2003 that made national headlines.

The following three plays will follow James through his political life, the assassination, and his legacy.

"We couldn't have the assassination in this play," said Geoffrey Davis. "One, because that's not the story of this man's life. And two, because I'm just not ready to face that yet."

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (bet. 10th and 11th avenues), 7 pm. For information, call (212) 941-1234.

James Davis

The play's first public reading will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the All Stars Project, 543 West 42nd St. (



Office of the Attorney General

As Cuomo sues Exxon, residents await clean up

By Dana Rubinstein
The Brooklyn Paper

The news that Attorney General Andrew Cuomo has sued ExxonMobil for having "spilled, leaked or otherwise discarded at least 17 million gallons of various petroleum products ... and other pollutants" into Greenpoint and Newtown Creek, induced muted praise from weary residents who've been fighting the energy giant for more than 25 years.

"I guess it's a step in the right direction, but I don't know if it's enough," said Carol O'Neill, who has lived on Morgan Avenue between Nassau and Driggs avenues for 22 years, and has lived atop the oil plume her whole life.

"I don't understand why it's something that hadn't been addressed a long time ago." The oil spill was first discovered in 1978 and is six million gallons larger than the Exxon Valdez disaster in 1989.

In 1990, the state ordered Exxon to clean up the Greenpoint spill, but set few bench-

marks and imposed no fines. Environmentalists claim little progress has been made, and many have taken the legal battle into their own hands.

"Since the case was first discovered in the 1970s, the state has been shielding Exxon," said Basil Seggos, the chief investigator for Riverkeeper, an environmental non-profit that sued ExxonMobil in 2004.

Meanwhile, O'Neill joined 469 other Greenpoint residents in a separate lawsuit against ExxonMobil and other companies at the end of 2005. Bob McErlane, one of her co-plaintiffs, welcomed the attorney general to the fight.

"The more the merrier," said McErlane, who is a third-generation homeowner on Hausman Street between Meeker and Nassau avenues.

According to Cuomo, over the course of half a century, ExxonMobil's refinery and storage facilities, and those of other energy companies, leaked 17 million gallons of oil into the industrial waterfront. The oil remains beneath 55 acres of Greenpoint and

the Newtown Creek, and has contaminated both the waterway and the East River.

Residents have grown fearful that the spill's benzene vapors and other toxins will threaten their health.

ExxonMobil said it can't comment on the suit until it receives the papers, but defended its clean-up efforts.

"ExxonMobil and other companies have recovered more than 9.3 million gallons of petroleum products to date," said Barry Wood, an ExxonMobil spokesman. "ExxonMobil is committed to remediation of the site, and we have been aggressive in our efforts and have made significant progress."

Cuomo also announced plans to sue Chevron and BP, which operated oil storage facilities along the creek: Phelps Dodge, which operated a copper-smelting plant and is credited with releasing lead and mercury into the area; and KeySpan, whose predecessors operated gas plant facilities along the creek and is thought to have contaminated creek sediment with PCBs, among other nasty chemicals.

Cobble Hill's Zanes earns 1st Grammy



Dan Zanes, formerly of the rock group the Del Fuegos, won this year's Grammy for Best Musical Album for Children.

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

Much of America was riveted to Monday's Grammy Award show to see the Police reunion or to watch the Dixie Chicks get the last laugh over President Bush, but adults all over Brooklyn cheered when kid's rock legend Dan Zanes bested his not-so-bitter rival John Lithgow in the Best Musical Album for Children category.

Too bad that most of Zanes' biggest fans were asleep by the time the Cobble Hill artist and former Del Fuegos frontman collected his award for his most-recent album, "Catch That Train."

But Zanes appreciated their good vibes all the way in California.

His win was also a minor victory for opponents of Bruce Ratner's Atlantic Yards mega-project: Zanes is a member of the Develop Don't Destroy Brooklyn advisory board.

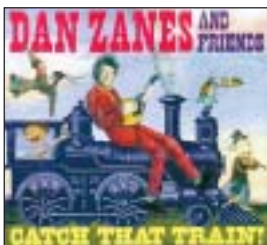
"I am immensely grateful for all of the emails of support and congratulations," Zanes said in an email blast to his fans this week. "It made the entire experience even more meaningful."

He collected the award with his cohort, the rapping Father Goose, who appears on all of his albums.

"We had a wild time," said Zanes, who beat Baby Einstein, Beethoven's Wig, Trout Fishing in America and Lithgow, the TV and Broadway star who has crafted a third career in children's music.

It's Zanes' first Grammy. An earlier classic, "House Party," was nominated in the same category a few years back.

Zanes was a veteran rocker by the time his Del Fuegos broke up in 1991. After a hiatus growing chard upstate, he moved back to New York and started cranking out album after album of rock music loved by kids (and even more loved by parents sick of Raffi and other dumbed-down children's music).



Dan Zanes' Grammy-Award-winning album, "Catch That Train."

TOP TEN REASONS

The Brooklyn Paper

is Brooklyn's **REAL** Newspaper!

#1 **Prize Winners** for 29 years



#4 **News coverage that's TRUSTED!**

The Brooklyn Paper's full-time professional editorial staff covers the news of our neighborhoods like no one else — which lends credibility to our advertisers.

#5 **THE stoop**

Expanded localized coverage featuring **NEW!** columnists with a finger on the pulse of each neighborhood.

#6 **EDITORIALS with PUNCH!**

Our Paper's voice is loud and clear. You ALWAYS know where we stand!

#7 **SMART mom** EVERY WEEK!

Brooklyn's favorite parenting columnist is on Brooklyn's only weekly parenting page.

#8 **THE BROOKLYN ANGLE** By Gersh Kuntzman

You won't find Gersh's column anywhere else.

Seasonal Specials including:

#9 • Brooklyn Bites • Summer Camps
• Brooklyn Bride • Graduation
• Style & Fashion • Brooklyn Home

#10 **Circulation that COUNTS!**

We're the most experienced free-distribution newspaper company in New York City. We carefully monitor and control our circulation to insure maximum impact and minimal waste.

#2 **GO BROOKLYN EVERY WEEK!**



The Essential Guide to the Borough of Kings — Brooklyn's arts and entertainment weekly — features Brooklyn's only complete Nightlife Guide and Calendar of Events

#3 **Brooklyn's BEST WEB SITE**
WWW.BROOKLYNPAPER.COM



HOME IMPROVEMENT

Architects

- VILLAGES REMOVED •
- BASEMENT & CELLAR LEGALIZATIONS •
- Renovations/Edgeworks/Residential Deck/Industrial/Commercial Design
- 29 Years of Quality Service & Experience

JUST ARCHITECTURE

(718) 855-1237

Bathrooms, Kitchen & Tile

John Costelloe

Plumbing and Tile Work. Toilets, faucets and shower bodies replaced. Specializing in tile jobs - large and small. Free Estimate • Reasonable Rates

John Costelloe (718) 768-7610

Carpentry

Carpentry Plus

- Closets • Kitchens • Sheet Rock
- Walls • Taping to finish • Painting
- Hardwood Floors • Wall Units
- Window Installation • Tile Work

Dependable with references

Kevin (718) 331-9251

Bathroom, Kitchen & Tile

A & K Tile Studio

Everything for your bath and kitchen. Offering in-lane tile buying.

Kitchen and bath designers on staff

Great selection of porcelain, ceramic, marble, onyx, granite, mosaics, border, glass, metal, Talavera tiles. We have Marble, Granites, Soapstone, Slate, Limestone, Onyx, Stainless Steel, Carrara, Silestone, Zodiax, Caesar Stone, Onyx and Ice Stone for countertops.

336 9th Street (bet. 5th and 6th Aves.) Bklyn, NY

(718) 369-6873

Cleaning Services

ENLIGHTENED CLEANING SERVICE, INC.

Complete Cleaning. Move Out/Move In Clean-Up. Office • Residential • Commercial. "Let us maintain your hallways"

718-573-4165

Bonded and Insured

Contractors

AVANTI HOME IMPROVEMENT INC.

ROOFING SPECIALIST

- Bathrooms
- Custom Kitchens
- Finished Basements
- Ceramic Tile
- Custom Carpentry
- Dry Wall
- Painting

Jobs are Owner Supervised. We have been doing a great job for over ten years

1157104

718-375-8292

Insured & Bonded

Excel Builders & Renovators Inc.

(718) 624-5300

Restoration/Tile • Kitchens • Brownstone Renovations

www.excelbuilders.com

Chris Mullins General Contracting

Roofing • Bathrooms • Kitchens

Carpentry • All Renovations • Brickwork

Demolition • Extensions • Windows

Waterproofing

Free Estimates, Licensed & Insured

718-276-8558

Progressive

• Carpets • Lids • Brownstones

Kitchen Bath Planning & More

Let Us • Kitchen • Bath • Insured

128171 718-408-0812

www.progressivecontractors.com

SA Home Improvement

- Shertrock Taping • Doors
- Deck & Sill & Bath Bars • Tile
- Work • Fin. Basements • Windows
- Custom made Kitchen Cabinets
- Vanity Furniture & more.

Free Est. All work Guaranteed

Fully Lic. & Insured #117276

718-998-1110

Heron Construction

Specializing in Carpentry, Drywall, Painting, Tile Work & Window Surfaces

Call (718) 450-1851

NX (718) 277-1963 E: Heron80@aol.com

Fully Insured • Lic#5344-60

40523-01

A.K. AZAD GENERAL CONTRACTING

Interior & Exterior

Brownstone Restoration Specialist

Waterproofing, Roofing, Brick Painting

ALL KINDS OF MASONRY WORK

ALL WORK GUARANTEED

917-519-4476

717-674-1673

Insured

Carpet Cleaning

AMERICAN CARPET CARE

Serving Your Community 23 Yrs

Carpet & Upholstery

Safe for Kids and Pets

Satisfaction Guaranteed

800-246-5934

Shampoo & Steam Cleaning

For Best Results Possible

FREE BOTTLE OF OUR "MIRACLE" SPOT REMOVER WITH EVERY JOB

Cleaning Services

Attentive Domestic

Local services for your specific domestic needs

Residential • Office Cleaning

• Move in/Out Cleaning • Post Jobs

• Packer • Appl. Stain • Uphol. Repair

Bonded • 212-620-0101

attentivedomestic.com

Cleaning Services

Murphy's Maids

Est. 1980

"Old Fashioned Irish Cleaning"

Specializing in:

- All Phases of Domestic Service
- Residential and Commercial
- Gift Certificates Available

718-279-3334

Bathroom, Kitchen & Tile

A & K Tile Studio

Everything for your bath and kitchen. Offering in-lane tile buying.

Kitchen and bath designers on staff

Great selection of porcelain, ceramic, marble, onyx, granite, mosaics, border, glass, metal, Talavera tiles. We have Marble, Granites, Soapstone, Slate, Limestone, Onyx, Stainless Steel, Carrara, Silestone, Zodiax, Caesar Stone, Onyx and Ice Stone for countertops.

336 9th Street (bet. 5th and 6th Aves.) Bklyn, NY

(718) 369-6873

Cleaning Services

Amsterdam Cleaning Service

100% GUARANTEED

- Move In/Out Cleaning • Carpet Cleaning
- Windows • Landscaping • Seasonal Cleaning
- Same Day Service Available

EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONAL RELIABLE

VERBA • IN MOT • MOVING

718-282-4170

BONDING & INSURED

Contractors

CMO HOME IMPROVEMENT

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

- Fin. Basements • Kitchens
- Bathrooms • Framing
- Shertrock • Doors
- Siding • Decks
- Retaining Walls • Painting
- Hardwood Flooring • Pergo
- Ceramic Tile • Windows
- ALL MASONRY WORK
- BRICK WORK & POINTING

Call Chris O'toole for all your Home Improvement needs

(917) 400-6028

Licensed & Insured

Free Estimates

Excel Builders & Renovators Inc.

(718) 624-5300

Restoration/Tile • Kitchens • Brownstone Renovations

www.excelbuilders.com

Chris Mullins General Contracting

Roofing • Bathrooms • Kitchens

Carpentry • All Renovations • Brickwork

Demolition • Extensions • Windows

Waterproofing

Free Estimates, Licensed & Insured

718-276-8558

Progressive

• Carpets • Lids • Brownstones

Kitchen Bath Planning & More

Let Us • Kitchen • Bath • Insured

128171 718-408-0812

www.progressivecontractors.com

SA Home Improvement

- Shertrock Taping • Doors
- Deck & Sill & Bath Bars • Tile
- Work • Fin. Basements • Windows
- Custom made Kitchen Cabinets
- Vanity Furniture & more.

Free Est. All work Guaranteed

Fully Lic. & Insured #117276

718-998-1110

Heron Construction

Specializing in Carpentry, Drywall, Painting, Tile Work & Window Surfaces

Call (718) 450-1851

NX (718) 277-1963 E: Heron80@aol.com

Fully Insured • Lic#5344-60

40523-01

A.K. AZAD GENERAL CONTRACTING

Interior & Exterior

Brownstone Restoration Specialist

Waterproofing, Roofing, Brick Painting

ALL KINDS OF MASONRY WORK

ALL WORK GUARANTEED

917-519-4476

717-674-1673

Insured

Decks

DECKS R US

Custom Decks

- Roof Decks • Deck Refacing
- Pool Decks • A.C.Q. Pine
- Garden Decks • Hardwoods
- Deck Restoration • P.V.C. Decking
- Power Washing • Sinks

Licensed • Bonded • Insured

www.1800983deck.com

1-800-983-DECK

718-227-2629

Decks

DECKS by Bart

Free Estimates

Call Bart:

15+ years experience

We build your round Plan Ahead

(718) 284-8053

800-YES-4-DECK

718-279-3334

Design Assist/Arch. Engr. www.decksbart.com

Decks

ELECTRA INC.

Have an electrical problem? No job too big no job too small

Call me, Anthony Iliadis

Licensed electrician

718-522-3893

Over 10 years with The Brooklyn Paper

4040819-02

Demolition

N & M DEMOLITION

Basics first we'll do it all! No Permit No Dumpster! No Labor Needed!

All types of Rubbish Removal

Free Estimates!

www.NMDemolition.com

718-531-6273

Firewood

FIREWOOD TREE SERVICE

All Seasoned Hardwood

• Ready to Burn •

(718) 954-4105

Decorating

Budding Interests

Landscape & Floral Design

Memorable arrangements

Decor for special occasions

Kristen Austin 718-522-1232

Contractors

Ready, Willing & Able Home Improvement, Inc.

"No Job Too Big or Too Small"

Kitchens, Baths, Basements, Steel Entry Doors, Shertrock, Windows, Painting, Siding, Extensions, Roofing & More

(718) 236-9466

Lic. # FREE ESTIMATES Insured

898711 OFFICE 6419 Bay Parkway

EAGLE CONTRACTORS

General Renovations

Interior & Exterior

Roofing • Waterproofing

Painting • Plastering

Carpentry • Shertrock

Tile • Stucco • Painting

Scaffold • Brick & Cement Work

Licensed #090813 • Insured

FREE ESTIMATES

718-686-1100

American Eagle Construction Corp.

Home Improvement • Interior & Exterior

- Demolition • Restoration • Painting/Removal
- Brick Work • Basement Repair
- Roofing Jobs • Siding • Shertrock
- The Floor Work • Cement Work
- Windows • Bathrooms • Basements & More!

Tel: 718-433-6003

718-506-6115

americanagleconstruction@yahoo.com

Knockout Renovation

DESIGN • PRODUCTS • REMODELING

Residential Remodeling Specialists

Complete Home Interior and Kitchen remodeling

Licensed 1207599

View previous projects @

www.knockoutrenovation.com

718-745-0722

STONEHENGE Construction Group

Our Services Include:

- Painting • Plastering
- Kitchens & Baths
- Tiling & Wood Flooring
- Basements & Closets
- Replacement Windows & More
- Call David Fisher Directly

Free Estimates • Insured

Lic. #123061

(917) 974-3625

MELODY Contracting NY Inc.

Exterior & Interior

Roofing • Masonry • Concrete

Brownstone Specialist

Brick • Extension

(718) 633-5249

(917) 302-1397

Fully Licensed & Insured

Painting

Painting \$100 per room

2 coats • Free minor plastering

From \$100. Reliable & Clean

Quality Finishes & Finishes

Days: 1 (917) 371-7086

Even: 1 (718) 921-2932

Electricians

BOTTEK ELECTRICAL CORP.

LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED

- "No Surprise" Protection • 24 hour / 7 day Service
- 100% Guaranteed • Clean, Courteous Service

www.BottekElectrical.com

We Install or Repair Everything Electric

CALL NOW... Help is On the Way!

1-888-BOTTEK-2

2 6 2 8 3 5 2

We understand how hard it is to find a great electrician who values your time.

- We charge by the job, not by the hour
- Our trucks are stocked with thousands of parts, so 90% of the work is done on the spot.
- Technicians specializing in repair and upgrades of older homes built before 1980.
- Saturday appointments available.
- 100% money back guarantee.
- Mention this ad and save \$25.

Christopher John

Call 718-389-9898

www.ChristJon.com

Exterminators

ANY HOUSE EXTERMINATING INC.

Residential • Commercial • Industrial

- Rodents • Roaches • Fleas
- Water Bugs • Bed Bugs

Use The Company with the Scientific Approach

(718) 443-9134

www.AnyHouseExterminator.com

Don't Be Bugged, Call NOW!

Free Estimates and Service

Handyman

SURE THING HANDYMAN SERVICES

Painting • Carpentry • Masonry • Plastering

Paper Hanging • Ceramic Tile Work • Siding

BUILDING MAINTENANCE AVAILABLE

PROFESSIONAL & RELIABLE • ALL WORK GUARANTEED

Call Robert 718-249-6928 • rcobthst@verizon.net

Movers (Licensed)

MOVING YOUR WAY

Moving Co. T33315 584 6th Av

LICENSED/INSURED

718-788-4920

Free Estimate & Box Delivery

POSITIVELY LOWEST PRICES!

Master Plasterer/Painter

Old Walls Saved

Repair, Install, Molding, Sill Cots

Excellent References

718-834-0470

Interiors

Painting • Plastering

Decorative Surfaces • Paper Hanging

FREE ESTIMATES FULLY INSURED

www.jpinteriors.com

718-522.3534

Painting

John Haviaras PAINTING

Interior/Exterior Painting

Taping • Shertrock

Complete Apartment & Home Renovations. Affordable Prices

Quality Work • Free Estimates

718-921-6176

SUNSHINE, INC.

NYS Registered 1974 Painter

718-74-6980

Let Us • Carpet • Hardwood

Painting • Plaster • Shertrock

Guaranteed Lowest Prices

Bonded • Insured • Lic# 093304

www.sunshinepainting.com

Project Managers

SEAMUS HENCHY AND ASSOCIATES

PROFESSIONAL PROJECT MANAGERS

We can assist you in managing your design, construction & renovation projects to result in a successful outcome.

We have been representing owners for 25 years to ensure that their capital projects are delivered on time & on budget.

212.431.7175

www.sghenry.com

Piping

FOR ALL YOUR PLUMBING NEEDS

Installation & Repairs of:

- Hot Water Heaters & Boilers
- Broken Pipes/Le-Piping
- Sinks, Tubs, Showers, Toilets
- Leaky Faucets
- Repairs & Replacements
- Violations Removed

Sewers & Drains Cleaned Electrically

RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL

162-124-2457

Est. 1981

Edward's Contracting Co.

718-577-5693

Roofing

Specializing in Finding & Repairing Problem Leaks

ALL TYPES OF ROOFING

- Shingles • Rubber Roof
- 90 lb. To Roof • Grown Roofs
- Siding • Siding • Gutters
- Leaders Brick Pointing

Over 25 Years Experience

718 209 1584

162-124-2457

Fully Insured & Bonded

EDWARD'S CONTRACTING CO.

Piping

JENNIFER MECHANICAL

A PIPING & HEATING COMPANY

Commercial • 24/7 EMERGENCY SERVICE • Residential

All Plumbing Repairs & Replacement

Waterlines & Sewer lines Replaced & Repaired

Water Heaters & Boiler Installation Repair & Service

• Clogged Drains • High Velocity Jetting

• In-Line TV Inspection

Toll Free: 866 554 3329 Local: 718 769 5400

Plumbing

ZAV PLUMBING & HEATING LLC

24/7 EMERGENCY SERVICE

Residential • www.zavplumbing.com • Commercial

- Boiler Installation & Repair • Oil to Gas Conversion
- Radiant Heating Design • Hot Water Heaters Replaced
- Boiler Controls & Trouble Shooting • All Types of Heating Systems
- Radiators Installed & Repaired • Annual Boiler Inspection
- Violations Removed • Water Or Gas Leaks Repaired

Insured 718 332-8511 LIC# 2011

Don't Even Think

About choosing a Plumbing, Heating & AC company with out checking the following

Make sure of:

Service Hours: Vigilante has true 24 hr Service

Warranties, Guarantees & Satisfaction Policies.

We have the best in the business

100% Satisfaction Guaranteed

Billing Procedure.

No surprises, we charge by the job not hour

VIGILANTE

Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning

(718) 522-6111

Licent Master Plumber #1206-1728

Roofing

A. Stewart Roofing

30 years experience

Licensed #1204810

Affordable & Insured

1-800-636-3944

Rubbish Removal

EAGLE Rubbish Removal Inc.

(718) 871-0997

Residential • Commercial

Great Neighbourhood References

Servicing Contractors, Homeowners & Builders

Professional Clean Up Jobs Available

Chase Chute of All Kinds • Vinyl

Construction, Basements, Houses

Interior Demolition Specialist

Reliable & Immediate Service

Guaranteed Competitive Price

Lic# 1586 & Insured

Mark's Roofing

All types of roofing

15 years experience

(718) 477-6191

(917) 499-6591

Ask for Mark

Insured & Licensed #1156783

Rubbish Removal

GREG'S EXPRESS RUBBISH REMOVAL

• We Offer The Lowest Rates In The City

• Old Furniture & Appliances

• Office, Home & Small Business

• Construction & Renovation Debris

• Single Rooms To Multiple Townhouses

• On-Time Service • Up-Front Rates

• Clean, Shiny Trucks

• Friendly, Uniformed Drivers

• Commercial Sites Welcome!

All New Customers

Serving the Community

Member Brooklyn Chapter of Concern

Prompt & Professional • 24/7 • Days

(866) MR-RUBBISH

718-74-6980

Lic. #093304 Fully Insured

10th year with The Brooklyn Paper

07-07-06

Quality Replacement Windows and Repairs

Repair ALL TYPES of windows

Screens and insulated glass.

Save Energy!

Custom Window Installation

Licensed & Insured • Reasonable Rates

Call Rene (718) 227-8787

Rubbish Removal

FIVE STAR CARTING INC.

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

Serving All of NYC

- Carting & Garbage Removal
- Clean-Outs • Roll-Off Service
- Shredding/Record Destruction
- Construction Debris Removal

FAST SERVICE

718 349-7555

FREE ESTIMATE

Mention Brooklyn Paper For Special Service Rates In Your Area

DUMPSTER For Rubbish Removal

10, 15, 20 & 30 yard containers

We Service Queens, Manhattan, Brooklyn and The Bronx

Quality & Prompt Service

Arco Equipment Corp

57-52 49th Place

Maspeth, NY 11378

tel: 718 366-4900 fax: 718 497-

Stairs

Cee Dee PROFESSIONAL CONTRACTORS

FLOOR SANDING ALSO AVAILABLE

Broken or Missing Balusters/Spindles

Weak or Broken Steps (Treads, Stringers or Risers)

Call: 718-893-4006